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ANCIENT MELROSE



*A Resume of ye Early
History of ye City com-
piled from Authorative
Records and Documents*

Published by the
MELROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PRICE 25 CENTS

ANCIENT MELROSE

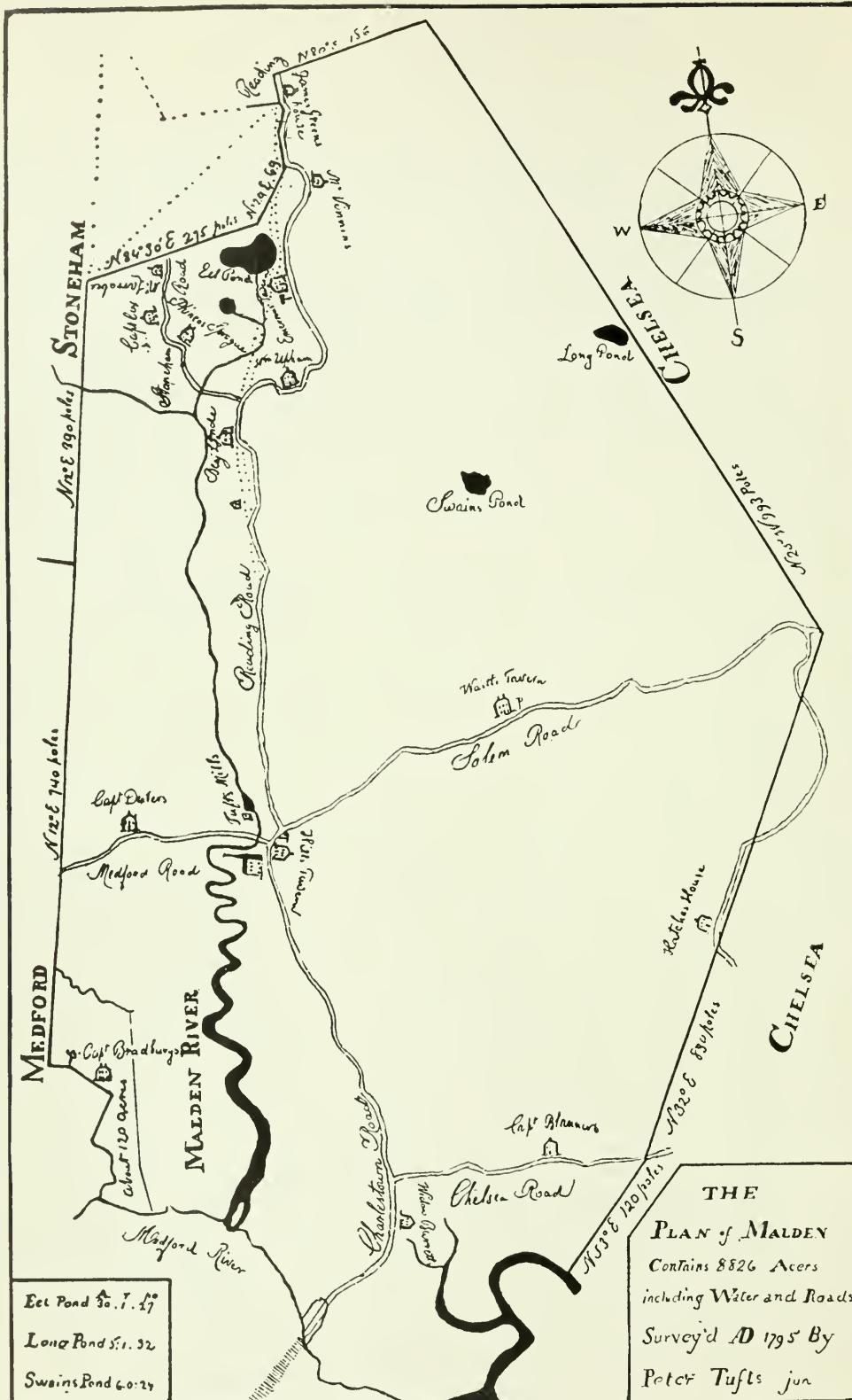
AND SOME

Information about its

*Old Homesteads
Families & Furnishings*

Compiled and annotated by
LEVI S. GOULD AND
FRANKLIN P. SHUMWAY

PUBLISHED BY THE
MELROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
1915



PLAN OF MAIDEN (INCLUDING MELROSE) MADE IN 1795

PREFACE

The Melrose Historical Society desires to extend their thanks to the family of the late E. H. Goss, Esq. for permission to reprint ad libitum from his "History of Melrose" matter and cuts relating to the early life of Melrose and to Mr. H. Willard Clark for the use of original photographs of the "Phineas Upham" house and grounds.

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The thanks of the Society are also tendered to the many advertisers whose advertisements made it possible to issue this book without expense to the Society.

FRANKLIN P. SHUMWAY,
President.

Melrose, September 1st, 1915.

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1915

Melrose Historical Society

BOSTON MASS
OLD COLONY PRESS

EARLIEST VISITORS

ONE of the many voyages of the intrepid and heroic navigator, Captain John Smith, was made in 1614, when he first visited the New England coast. He sailed from London, in the month of April, with two ships and forty-five men. The object of the voyage was, "to take Whales, for which we had one Samuel Cramton, and divers others expert in that faculty, and also to make tryalls of a Myne of Gold and Copper; if those failed, Fish and Furs were then our refuge to make our selues sauers howsooner."

Not meeting with much success, and finding "this Whalefishing a costly conclusion," and filled with his usual spirit of exploration, he says: "Whilst the Sailors fished, myself with eight others of them that might best bee spared," ranged up and down the coasts of Maine and Massachusetts, "in a small boat," visiting the various harbors and rivers. During this time, he continues: "I was vp one riuer fortie miles, crossed the mouths of many, whose heads are reported to be great Lakes." When he entered Boston Harbor, he says: "I tooke the fairest reach in this Bay for a river, whereupon I called it Charles River, the name of our Royall King Charles."

How far inland, around the Charles, Mystic and Malden Rivers, Captain Smith penetrated is not known. He may have visited our pleasant valley and its surrounding hills, but he has made no record of such an event. Without doubt he traversed a goodly portion of the territory of Charlestown and Malden, as three months were occupied in these travels and explorations.

In his quaint manner he describes this section as follows:

"And then the Countrie of Massaehusetts, which is the paradise of all those parts. For heere are many Iles all planted with corne, groues, mulberries, saluage gardens, and good harbours. . . . And of all the fourre parts of the world that I haue yet scene not inhabited, could I haue but means to transport a Colonie, I would rather liue here than anywhere; and if it did not maintaine it selfe, were wee but once indifferently well fitted, let vs starue. . . . there is victuall to feede vs, wood of all sorts to build Boats, Ships, or Barks; the fish at our doores; pitch, tarre, masts, yards, and most other necessaries onely for making? And here are no hard Landlords to racke vs with high rents, or extorted fines to consume vs; no tedious pleas in law to consume vs with their many years disputations for Justice; no multitudes to occasion such impediments to good orders, as in popular States. So freely hath God and his Maiesty bestowed those blessings on them that will attempt to obtaine them, as here every man may be master and owner of his owne labour and land; or the greatest part in a small time. If hee haue nothing but his hands, he may set vp his trade; and by industrie quickly grow rich."

In September, 1621, ten men, under the leadership of Captain Myles Standish, with Tisquantum, or Squanto, and two other Indians, left Plymouth on a voyage of discovery. They were gone four days. They landed, evidently, on the Malden shore of the Mystic River, and travelled up through Medford. Their diary states:

"On the morrow we went ashore, all but two men, and marched in Armes vp in the Country. Hauing gone three myles, we came to a place where Corne had been gathered, a house pulled downe, and the people gone."

They went as far as the residence of the former Chief Nanepashemet, parleyed and bartered with some Indians and returned to Plymouth, reporting the result of their obser-

vations. Many other exploring expeditions were made by those who followed the Pilgrims in 1620 to our shores.

These were engendered by the different grants made in England about this time. The territory of which Melrose forms a part, was granted to Robert Gorges by "The Council established at Plymouth, in the County of Devon, for the planting, ruling, ordering, and governing of New England in America," of which the Earl of Warwick and Sir Ferdinando Gorges, father of Robert, were the most prominent members. This Council claimed authority "over the region extending from Delaware Bay to Newfoundland and westward over unknown countries to the great South Sea." This grant to Robert Gorges conveyed

"all that part of the mainland commonly called Messachusiae, on the north-east side of the Bay known by the name of Massachuset, together with all the shores along the sea for ten English miles in a straight line towards the north-east, and thirty miles into the mainland through all the breadth aforesaid."

Soon after Robert Gorges granted to John Oldham and John Dorrell

"all the lands wthin Mattachusetts Bay betweene Charles River and Abousett [Saugus] River, Containd in lengt by a streight lyne 5 myles vp the said Charles River into the maine land north west from the border of the sd Bay including all Creekes and points by the way and 3 myles in length from the mouth of the foresaid river of Abousett vp into the maine land vpon a streight lyne S: W: including all Creeks and points, and all the land in breadth and length betweene the foresaid Rivers, wth all prrogatives Ryall Mynes excepted."

In 1628 many settlers came to Salem, among them Ralph, Richard and William Sprague, sons of Edward Sprague of Upway, in Dorsetshire. Soon after arriving, these brothers, with several others, with the approbation of Governor Endicott, went on an exploring expedition, in a westerly direction, traversing the intervening territory between Salem and Charlestown; thus passing through and examining on the way, portions of Lynn, Saugus, Melrose, Malden and Medford; fording three rivers, Saugus, Malden and Mystic, before reaching their destination, Mishawam, now Charlestown. Returning the Sprague brothers remained in Salem but a short time; for they soon after retraced their steps and settled in Charlestown, and were among those referred to in a letter written in 1629, by Rev. Francis Higginson.

"There are in all of vs both old and new planters about three hundred, whereof two hundred of them are settled in Neihumkek, now called Salem: and the rest have planted themselves at Masathulets Bay, beginning to build a towne there which wee doe call Cherton, or Charles Towne."

There were many descriptions of our New England territory sent home to England by these early adventurers, some of which seem to us of today somewhat overdrawn and too enthusiastic; but none of these writers were so thorough and enthusiastic as was William Wood, who, after his return to England in 1634, gives a complete and detailed history of this whole territory. His work was entitled, "*New Englands Prospect. A true, lively, and experimental description of that part of America, commonly called New England: discouering the state of that Countrie, both as it stands to our new-come English Planters; and to the old Native Inhabitants.— Laying downe that whiche may both enrich the knowledge of the mind-travelling Reader, or benefit the future Voyager.*"

In the second part of this work Wood gives a complete description of the Indian tribes then inhabiting this region. It has besides, the first map of "*The South Part of New-England, as it is Planted this Yeare, 1634,*" wherein he locates the various rivers, settlements, etc. Herein is shown "Spott pond," "Misticke pond," "Horn ponds," and others.

Two large and powerful tribes held sway in this region when our fathers landed, — the Massachusets and the Pawtuckets. The renowned sachem of the Pawtuckets was Nane-pashemit, who took up his abode on the Mystic River in 1615, and was killed there three

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THE PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE BEFORE RESTORATION

or four years later. He was the father of Sagamore John of the Mystic, Sagamore James of Lynn, and Sagamore George of Salem. George finally filled the place of his father, and was sachem of the Pawtuckets. During the residence of Nanepashem in Medford, his lodge was on Rock Hill, where he could best watch the approach of his enemies. . . . The territory for many miles round Mystic River was owned and occupied by small tribes or detachments, each having its own head. Medford and some of the adjoining territory belonged to Sagamore John, whose Indian name was Monohagnaham, and who was friendly to our ancestors, and gave our fathers permission to settle, and afterwards appraised them of premeditated attacks by unfriendly Indians.

Sagamore John had his headquarters in Malden, his home being in the southern part of the town, now Everett, "upon a creek, which runs from the marshes between Powder-Horn Hill and Wimessimmet, into the Mystic River at Sweetzer's, or Beacham's, Point." From which point the ancient road laid out in 1653 ran through Everett, Malden via Forest Dale cemetery and Wyoming cemetery, Lynde, Lebanon, and Green Street Melrose to the "Reading Ponds."

FIRST SETTLEMENTS

Originally the territory of Melrose belonged to the town of Charlestown, which was settled in 1629, and was a far more extensive region than that now belonging to it. It then included what is now Somerville, Malden, Everett, Woburn, Burlington, Melrose, Stoneham, a small part of Cambridge, West Cambridge and Reading, and a large part of Medford. Town after town was taken from it, gradually diminishing its territory until it became the smallest town, territorially, in the State. Woburn, comprising Burlington, was taken from it and incorporated in 1642; Malden, in 1649; Stoneham, in 1725; Somerville, in 1842. In 1717 and 1725, a large tract called "North Charlestown," was set off, part to Malden and part to Reading. In 1754, another tract, including several large farms, was set off to Medford, and now forms the eastern part of that city. A tract was set off to Cambridge in 1802, and to West Cambridge in 1842. Thus was Charlestown, now a district of Boston, reduced to its present limits.

In a few years after the settlement of Charlestown, the inhabitants from that town and other sources, began to cross over the Mystic River, and settle at Mystic Side; it was thus known as early as 1634; and when Thomas Coytmore, "a right godly man," built a dam, and soon after a mill at "Black Rock," on "Three Myle Brook."

Near the present center of Malden, quite a settlement had been established; and, owing to their distance from Charlestown proper, very soon the inhabitants began to think of forming a new town, and having taken the necessary steps, on May 11, 1649, the General Court passed the following vote:

"In answer to the petition of seull inhabitants of Misticke side their request is graunted, viz., to be a distinct towne of themselves, & the name thereof to be Maudlen."

Malden was named after the town of Maldon, England, by Joseph Hills and others, who came from that town. "The affections of the first planters of New England still clung, as was natural, to the soil of their nativity; and they designed, by the names they betsowed on the places of their abode, in this land of their adoption, to keep alive in their breasts the tender associations of home."

In 1727 Malden lost quite a large tract of territory which would now have formed a part of Melrose had this action not have taken place. A number of families in the extreme north of the town were dissatisfied by "being so remote from the Middle of the Town that they are under great Inconveniencie and Difficulties to attend the publick worship there, and their Civil and Military Duties in the Said Town, and that they ly much nearer to Reading," etc. Their prayer to be set off to Reading was favorably acted upon

by that town, which petitioned the General Court for their annexation and this was also favorably acted upon by Malden, May 22, 1727. [L. S. G.]

The section thus lost to Malden shortened the town more than a mile, and carried with it some of the wealthiest inhabitants. It is to this addition to the limits of the old town of Reading that the town of Wakefield owns the peculiar configuration of its southerly portion embracing the present village of Greenwood.

The names of the ten families thus changing their town connections were: William Green, Thomas Upham, Nathaniel Evans, David Green, John Walton, Samuel Evans, John Evans, Richard Upham, Samuel Howard and Thomas Green. In 1734, still another tract of the northwestern part of Malden was set off, by Legislative act, to the town of Stoneham. There was a cluster of Green families in this part of the town who were also remote from religious privileges, and who were not embraced in the action of 1727. A petition to the General Court, June 21, 1734, signed by John Green, Isaac Green, John Dexter and Jonas Green of Malden, and David Green, Thomas Green and Samuel Green of Reading, which petition set forth "their Difficulty to attend the Public Worship of God in their Towns by Reason of their Remoteness from the meeting house;" and praying "That they and their familys and Estates may by order of this Court be annexed to the Town of Stoneham." Favorable action was granted Dec. 21, 1734. This territory comprised most all of that now known as the Melrose Highlands, and it remained a part of Stoneham until 1853, when, after much opposition on the part of that town, it was reunited to the territory of Melrose.

The Commons was an extensive tract of land belonging to the town of Malden, embracing about thirty-five hundred acres, which was nearly one-half of the town, as then constituted. About twenty-three hundred of these acres covered all of the eastern part of what is now Melrose, and most of what was once the northerly part of Malden; that portion now known as Greenwood. It was the land lying east of Ell Pond, and east of Lebanon and Green Streets, extending from a little way below Swain's Pond in the south, up into Wakefield, then Reading, to Smith's Pond, now called Crystal Lake; and to within about half a mile of Reading meeting-house. It was "full of stately timber," and, say the Charlestown records: "indeed generally all the country round about was an uncouth wilderness."

We are told that when our ancestors made their settlement at Shawmut, now Boston, they sent out a number of persons to examine the country to the North, who, having searched the first range of hills, probably the range near us, then covered with forests, returned and reported, that, having reached a mountainous and rocky country, they deemed it best to come back, as there was little probability that the settlement would ever extend beyond these mountains.

DIVIDING THE COMMON LAND

Dec. 25, 1604 Deacon John Green, John Greenland, Tryal Newberry, Phineas Upham, Thomas Newhall, Lieutenant Joseph Wilson and Henry Green were chosen to proceed with the division of the "Commons" according to the direction "of ye formar commite namely those gentillmen That are chosen out of this town." Many other votes giving details for accomplishing this important matter were passed; among them the following:

"Also agreead upon by ye committie yt for ye deuiding of ye common every properiters name shall be writ distantly: and yt ye lots be well shuffled together: And one man chose by ye town: To draw ym out of a bag: and ye first man yt is drawen shall have ye first lot in ye common beginning as aforesaid And so succsesiuely as ye all drawen To the proportion of 1000 acres and then to proseed in ye same way and method for another 1000 acres.

It is also agreead upon by ye committie That there shall be 2 pols in breadth between euy Raing of lots for high wais: and that euy mans lot shall Run Eighty two pool in leangth for yt end.

Also that "this comitee hes pouer to improue An artis to lay out ye lots," and that John Sargeant Jr., be authorized "To draw y^m out of a bag."

Mr. Corey, who has made a very thorough study of these "Commons" and their disposition, says:

The allotment was finally completed; and the record begins as follows:

"Recorded May ye 30: 1695: An a Greement of the Town of malden In deuiding of The common The first deuision begining at the upar end next to nathaniell eueness land by Charlstown line: In mannar as followeth: ye lots Runing 82 pool in length."

This division, which contained nine hundred and thirty-one acres and fifty-one poles, was laid out in seven ranges and seventy-four lots. It comprised the northern portion of the town between the bounds of Boston and Charlestown. The Evans farm of sixty acres, on the westerly side of the road, and the woodland, which had been reserved for the ministry, on the easterly side, alone parted it from the Reading line at Smith's Pond. This tract of common was broken by the Green farm, by a piece of land north of L Pond which belonged to the estate of Thomas Coytmore as early as 1653, by ten acres of meadow "aboue the old cow pen in Mauldon" which Joseph Hills had sold to Henry Evans in 1660, and, perhaps, by smaller lots of appropriated land. [This division extended to our present Howard Street.]

The second division of the two thousand acres, containing nine hundred and forty-two acres and twenty-eight poles, was laid out in six ranges and seventy-five lots. [Extending from Howard Street to south of Grove Street.] Beginning "by elle ponde," it stretched over the highlands towards the Boston line, covering the country east of the Reading Road [Main Street] and north of Swain's Pond. [Quite a large proportion of this territory is now known as East Side.] Some of the ways reserved for passage between the ranges in this division became highways in time and still exist. [Porter, Upham, and Grove Streets.] . . . These two divisions comprised the territory known as the two thousand acres and contained, together, eighteen hundred and seventy-three acres and seventy-nine poles, as measured by Mr. Fisk, the "artis."

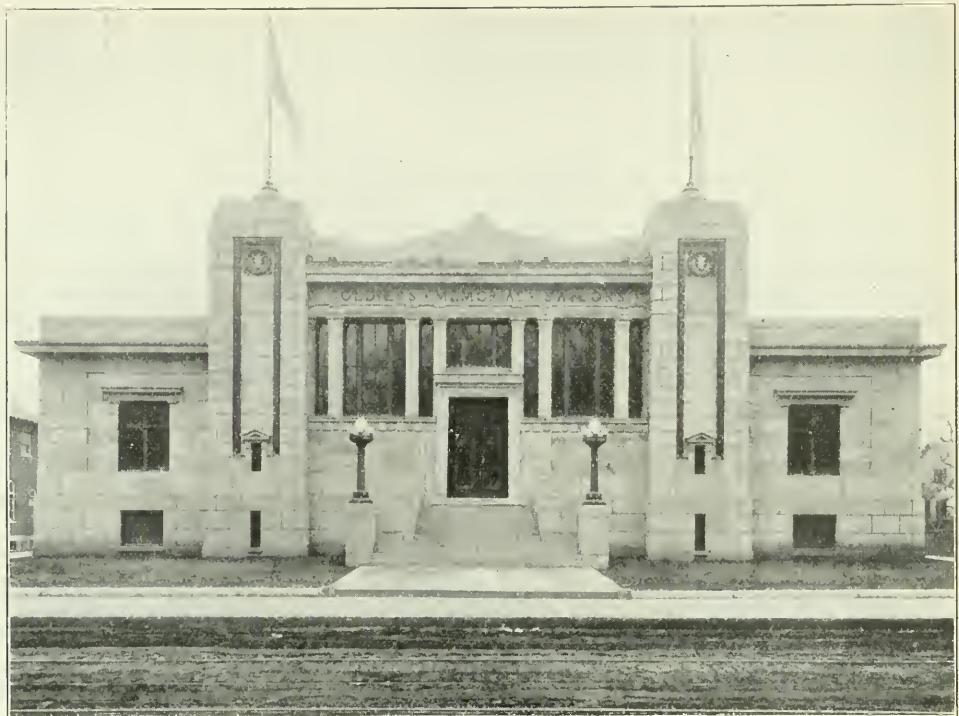
The third division is described as "The third diuision for the Remander of the wood Land one the este sid the mill brook called the three hundred ackrs Begining at sargent Skiners Lote and are to rune 40 poles in length." Its seventy-four lots embraced three hundred and eleven acres and fifty-eight poles of the woodland between Swain's Pond and Seadan. [Now known as "South East," and includes the high summit of Mount Hood.]

The balance of these "Commons" now divided, was on territory now Malden. There were seventy-four proprietors and freeholders who shared in this allotment; the names are all given by Mr. Corey, in his *History of Malden*, pp. 376-7.

Soon after this division was made many of the lots were sold to persons who had no interest in the common land, and about the year 1700, many of the people who already owned, or now bought, began to build houses and settle upon their lots.

A piece of land at the eastern end of Ell Pond, where now stand the ice-houses, was reserved for a watering place, and for the washing of flax, the material of which the home-made clothing of the early inhabitants was made. It appears that the abutters began to encroach upon this public water resort, and April 17, 1699, Corporal John Green, Phineas Upham, and Joseph Floyd were chosen to run

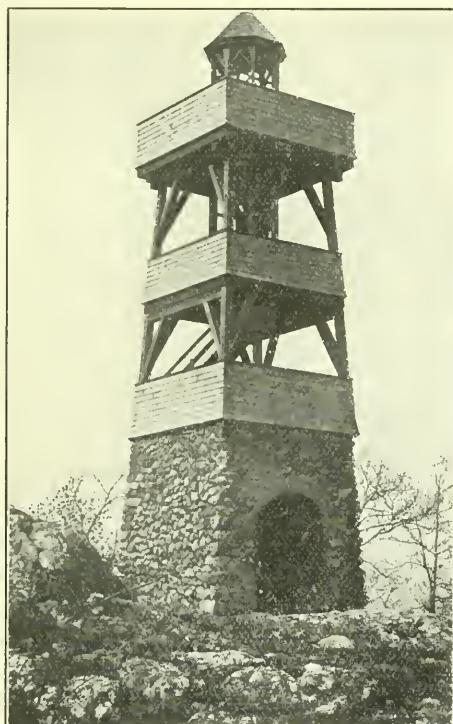
"ye bounds and renew ye marks between proprietors land: and ye small peece of common land: adjoining to L pond: which was left for convenience of watering."



SOLDIERS AND SAILORS MEMORIAL BUILDING



U. S. GRANT POST No. 4, ON MOUNT HOOD—1910



MOUNT HOOD

Mount Hood, which was formerly known as "Bear Hill," is situated in the southeast part of Melrose near the Saugus line. This elevation, the highest in this vicinity, commands an extensive view which includes twenty-seven towns and cities. Nahant and Revere Beach seem to be at one's feet, a fine view of the waters of Massachusetts Bay follows, and then turning inland, the eye is greeted with delightful scenery everywhere, stretching even to the New Hampshire hills.

Tradition states that upon this summit the Wampanoag Indians, whose Sachem in early Colonial times was Massasoit, lighted the signal fire by which they communicated with other friendly tribes as far away as Mt. Wachusett, near the foot of which dwelt another tribe of "good" Indians with whom they engaged in barter and exchange.

In 1907 Mount Hood was purchased by Mr. John C. F. Slayton, who constructed a road to the summit and there erected an observatory which was afterwards partly destroyed by fire but will be restored.

On the opposite page is a reproduction of a photograph of the Veterans of U. S. Grant Post G. A. R., No. 4, taken on the occasion of an outing given for them at Mount Hood on Memorial Day, 1907.

The other illustration is the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Building, of Greek architecture, which was constructed of Quincy granite

obtained from the old Court House in Boston.

The corner stone of this splendid building was laid on May 30, 1912, by the Grand Lodge of Masons of Massachusetts, accompanied by the Hugh DePayens Commandery, K. T. and the Wyoming Lodge of Masons.

The finely finished and fitted up G. A. R. Hall, the Veterans' Club Room and the Ladies' Parlor, together with the finely appointed kitchen and Banquet Hall occupy the front part of the building.

Directly in the rear, connected with the G. A. R. Hall, and entered by lobbies on the north and south sides of the building, is the Auditorium, with a seating capacity for eleven hundred people, including two beautiful boxes and a stage finely equipped for dramatic, musical or forum purposes, and with a lighting system, throughout unexcelled.

This unique building was made possible by the generosity and efforts of Mr. John C. F. Slayton, chairman of the Building Committee, who devoted more than one year's time of persistent effort to overseeing the construction of the building, creating and solidifying public sentiment in its favor. He also gave more than one-fourth of the whole cost, provided the granite for the structure, and contributed the interior furnishings, boxes, pianos and stage equipment.

In the G. A. R. Hall hangs a portrait of Mr. Slayton, with a bronze tablet, inscribed with this enduring tribute:—

JOHN C. F. SLAYTON
WHOSE VISION GENEROSITY AND LEADERSHIP
MADE THIS MEMORIAL OF PAST HEROISM
A PRESENT REALITY AND AN INSPIRATION
TO A NOBLER COMMUNITY LIFE
PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF MELROSE
BY HIS FELLOW CITIZENS
MEMORIAL DAY
1913

NORTH MALDEN NOW MELROSE

At the time the Boston and Maine Railroad was completed, (in 1845) the territory of Melrose, then known as "North Malden," and earlier as "North End," was very sparsely settled. Very soon after it commenced operation, July 4, 1845, people from Boston and other places, began to investigate our pleasant vale for residences; and in a short time many families had here made their homes. The church, business, town and social relations were so separated from the centre and main town of Malden, that the citizens began to agitate a separation from the mother town, and the setting up of a municipality by itself; and in 1848, and 1849, this matter was most earnestly canvassed, and action taken. On March 22, 1849, an act was reported to the House of Representatives for the incorporation of the Town of Melrose, which was passed April 10, almost unanimously; but it failed to receive the concurrence of the Senate by a vote of twenty-seven to three.

Later this same year, 1849, Malden, foreseeing that with these railroad facilities, and the varied and natural beauty of our situation, we should in a very few years become a growing, thrifty and prosperous community, at a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Malden, held Nov. 26, 1849, it was voted:

*Valuation of the
Town of Melrose
as Appear'd in 1849 a True Copy
From Malden Book
Real Estate \$336,352
Personal Estate 43,509
Total \$384,461
Number of Polls 292*

*Elbridge Green } Assessors
S L Taylor } of Malden
W J Farnsworth }*

"To choose a committee to view and report to the town such line as the committee shall think to be the proper line between the town of Malden and the proposed town of Melrose. That if the inhabitants of Melrose petition the Legislature for the division line as reported by the Selectmen to advocate the setting off of Melrose but if any other line be asked for then to oppose the setting off."

A petition was presented to the Legislature early in 1850, by Elbridge Green and others, praying that the northerly part of Malden, which had been called North Malden for many years, be set off and incorporated as a separate town to be

called Melrose.

At a town meeting held in Malden, February 7, 1850, it was voted:

"That whereas, a petition had been presented to the Legislature, by Elbridge Green and others, praying that the northerly section of Malden may be set off and incorporated as a separate town, to be called Melrose, and whereas an order of notice has been issued on said petition therefore, Resolved, That we, the citizens of Malden in town meeting assembled, called according to law, to act on said order of notice, do hereby express our approval of said petition.

Resolved, That the line of separation petitioned for is a proper line, and one that meets our approval, and which, in our opinion, ought to be adopted, and the prayer of said petition be granted.

Resolved, That the representative be, and he is, hereby instructed to aid the petition, in all honorable ways, to accomplish the object of their petition, keeping always in view the interest of the town in wording the act of incorporation."

In accordance with the mutually expressed wishes of the inhabitants of both sections, an act was drawn and reported to the Legislature, which was adopted; and Melrose was incorporated May 3, 1850. It then had 1,260 inhabitants, and an assessed valuation of \$483,446.00.

A committee of three from each town was appointed "to make a just and equitable settlement of all the financial concerns appertaining to said towns & the property belonging

HARLAN P. KELSEY

Landscape Architect

Formal and Naturalistic Designing Water and Rock Gardens
City Planning and Real Estate Development



Owner { BOXFORD NURSERY, BOXFORD, MASS.
 } HIGHLANDS NURSERY, PINEOLA, N. C.



Hardy American Native Plants

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

to the same." Gilbert Haven, Lemuel Cox, and Daniel A. Perkins were appointed for Malden, and George Emerson, Isaac Emerson and Aaron Green for Melrose.

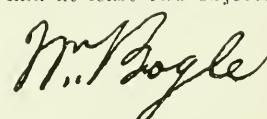
In 1853, that part of Malden which was set off to Stoneham in 1734, most of the territory of which is now known as the Melrose Highlands, and which embraced also what is now the Sewall Woods Park, containing about twenty-five houses with seventy-five inhabitants, was set off and annexed to Melrose, thus adding three hundred and eighty-one acres to the area of our territory, making a total of thirty-one hundred and fourteen and seventy one-hundredths acres.

Melrose is situated in the eastern part of the County of Middlesex, and is seven miles directly north of Boston. It is bounded on the north by Wakefield, on the east by Saugus, (which is in the County of Essex,) on the south by Malden, and the west by Stoneham, and a small corner of Medford. Its shape is somewhat irregular, having a width on the Wakefield line of about a mile and a half, on the Saugus line two and a half miles, a little less than three miles on the Malden, and nearly two and a half miles on the Stoneham and Medford line.

Melrose is divided into several distinct villages, the Middlesex Fells,—generally shortened into Fells,—and Wyoming in the southern part of the city; the Centre; the Melrose Highlands, in the north,—each of these having a station on the Boston and Maine Railroad.

THE NAMING OF MELROSE

The name, Melrose, was adopted by the advocacy of the late William Bogle, a native of Glasgow, Scotland, who had been a resident several years before our incorporation, and before the Boston and Maine Railroad was built in 1845, and when he had to go back and forth to his business in Boston by the stage-coach line which ran between Boston and Reading; and which was established in 1798. Mr. Bogle evidently had at least two objects in view in offering us our name: one, a sweet sounding one, that had not been in common use, we being the first to adopt it in our country; another, as a memory of his native land. The name was adopted by a committee, consisting of the late Hon. Daniel W. Gooch, William Bogle, David L. Webster and John Shelton, which met at Mr. Shelton's house, No. 75 Lake Avenue.



[In connection with the claim that William Bogle is entitled to the distinction of naming Melrose, it is well to note that German S. Phippen, who was an inhabitant of North Malden, several years and after the incorporation of Melrose served many times as both moderator and assessor, not only stated to the writer that Rev. John McLeish, pastor of the Methodist Protestant Church at that time, first proposed the name but he also asserted it in a communication published in a local paper in July, 1900. Mr. J. P. Mellus, a highly respected citizen for many years, also published a statement about the same time saying that *he was present* at a conference in the house of L. H. M. Cochran, a prominent citizen of North Malden, attended by both Mr. Bogle and Mr. McLeish, on which occasion, he reports that McLeish said, "I know a beautiful little town in Scotland which resembles this section so much that I should like to have our new town named after it. Mr. Bogle has seen it often, I allude to Melrose." As all favored the suggestion Mr. McLeish was delegated to circulate a petition in behalf of the name. While I do not wish to detract from any honor which may be due to an intimate personal friend, as Mr. Bogle was, I am of the opinion that the testimony of highly creditable living witnesses should be taken in preference to hearsay. I was well acquainted with Rev. John McLeish and heard him preach many times. Both he and Mr. Bogle were "eanny Scotchmen." *He formed a company of "Forty Niners," composed of several North Malden men, who with others, bought the Brig Sea Eagle and sailed around "the Horn" from Boston March 8th, 1849, arriving in 'Frisco October 28, *seven months and twenty days!* His son, John Jr., went and in due time returned with him. John Senior died years ago. The son built the finest tomb in

* See folio 65 regarding Bogle and McLeish.

Wyoming Cemetery, in which lies the body of his first wife who was a daughter of Lorenzo H. M. Cochran and a schoolmate of the writer. John, Junior, is deceased but was buried in Cincinnati.

[L. S. G.]

The earliest local name applied to our territory, before it came to be known as "Malden North End," and "North Malden," was "Pond Field," so called when describing the possessions of Ralph and Richard Sprague, around Ell Pond, in the *Charlestown Book of Possessions*, 1638; it is there written "Pond feilde."

Although Melrose is one of the younger municipalities of this Commonwealth, its territory had been occupied, at the time of its incorporation, for a period of over two hundred years. There are at least eight families whose ancestors made their abode in this beautiful valley, a part of them nearly, and a part over two centuries and a half ago. These are the Spragues, the Greens, the Barretts, the Lyndes, the Uphams, the Vintons, the Howards and the Goulds. Descendants of all of them are among its citizens today.

They came determined to succeed, and succeed they did. Would that we had a minute chronicle of many of the events that took place in the lives of these early settlers of Melrose. A few years ago, many of the past generation were living, who could have related much pertaining to the early history of the town, which they had received from their ancestors. But they have passed away, and with them many local incidents, events and anecdotes that would now be interesting, and which they could have rehearsed, are no longer attainable.

In those early days, besides the prowling and savage Indian, our surrounding forests, many of which have not yet wholly disappeared, were full of wild animals; wolves, deer, bears, foxes, and wildeats. So plentiful were they that laws were passed concerning them, and bounties offered to aid in the extermination of the most obnoxious and destructive of them. A law was passed by the Colony, in 1630, giving bounty for the killing of wolves; one in 1635 for wolves and foxes; and in 1640, the following law was passed:

"Ordered, that every man that kills a wolfe wth hounds shall have 40^s alowed him, & whosoever kils a wolfe wth trap, peece, or other engine, shall have 10^s alowed him, to bee paid by that towne where the wolfe is killed, & if hee bee kiled out of any towne bounds it shall bee paid by the Treasurer."

Wood, in *New Englands Prospect*, speaks of the "three great annoyances, of wolves, rattle-snakes and mosquitoes."

The former were nightly visitors among the unprotected herds and flocks. In the time of deep snows they hung around the settlements in great packs, and their fierce barking was a terror to man as well as beast. They infested the Saugus woods as late as 1753 and were not entirely extirpated until many years after. Bounties were offered for their scalps, and the grisly trophies were sometimes nailed on the meeting-houses. "For Beares," says Wood, "they be common being a great blacke kind of Beare, which be most feiree in Strawberry time." They are said to have been seen in Malden woods, within this century, and they yet prowl along sequestered roads in the traditions of old families.

Concerning the topographical features of Melrose, geologists have made the statement that the Merrimack River once flowed through this valley to the sea; but that by some upheaval of nature its course was changed to its present channel. Had that been so, and such a change had not taken place, how different would have been the history of this region. But such is not the case. In place of a wide flowing river occupying nearly all of the level lands, we have the City of Melrose, most beautifully situated, with its charming and diversified scenery, of valley, hill and wildwood.



ENSIGN THOMAS LYNDE'S HOMESTEAD, BUILT 1670
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GEORGE UPHAM HOUSE (See page 50)

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MELROSE, MASS.

COMPLIMENTS OF

A Friend



EARLY SETTLERS

The territory now Melrose, has been occupied by certain original families and their descendants for many generations.

Among the early settlers in Charlestown was Thomas Lynde, who came from England, where he was born in January 1593-4. He became a freeman in 1634. He bought a tract of land which included the site of the present State Prison, and which was known until after the time of the Revolution as Lynde's Point. He was one of the Deputies to the General Court for several years, serving first in 1636.



In the *Charlestown Book of Possessions*, for 1638, issued in 1878, as the *Third Report of the [Boston] Record Commissioners*, which has been called the *Domesday Book of Mystic Side*, Thomas Lynde is credited with thirteen items or parcels of real estate, besides his homestead "on the southeast side of mill hill." In the various allotments of out-lying lands which had been previously made, he had received a number of tracts belonging to Mystic Side. One of them, evidently received in the division of hay-lots, was described as follows:

"Three Acres of meadow by estimation, more or lesse, lying on the north side of mount prospect, [Wayte's Mount, now crowned with Malden's water reservoir,] butting southeast upon Edward Convers, and to the northwest upon the riverett, bounded by the comon on the southeast and northeast."

He also received by allotment, "Eightie Aeres of land lying in Rockefelde." Concerning this tract, the following record occurs in *Charlestown Archives*, xx:

"[18. 12^m 1638.] Inasmuch as it apprs yt the Land in the great Lotts yt was laid out to Thomas Line & Richd Sprague prooves altogethr unusefull being nothing but Rockes wch was wholly besides or intent, & only through oversight of the Surveyors wee Judge it to bee Just & equall yt they have allowanee elswhere to theire satisfaction they leaveing the afforesd Rocks to lye Common."

Therefore, Aug. 26, 1639, it was agreed "yt Tho: Line shall have some Land by the Mount Prospect, if upon view it may bee had by his Hay ground." This was laid out as proposed; and "Here, as the Lynde family increased, several houses were built, the oldest of which was probably built by Thomas the grantee, near the site of the brick-end house now standing near the entrance of the [Forest Dale] Cemetery on Forest Street."

These two allotments of land formed the beginning of the future ownership, by Thomas Lynde and his descendants, of not only this land on the northerly side of Wayte's Mount, in Malden, but of nearly all the territory adjoining and now included in the southern part of Melrose.

Ensign Thomas Lynde, eldest son of Deacon Thomas Lynde, was born in England in 1616, and came to Malden some years before its incorporation, when it was known as Mystie Side. He may have lived for a while in the first house built by his father, but soon after, about 1645, his homestead was built either by himself or his father, just south of Boston Rock on the present Sylvan Street, near the north-western entrance to Wyoming Cemetery. This was the first house built on Melrose territory. As evidence of this early residence of Ensign Thomas Lynde, there is a remonstrance, dated March 16, 1648, recorded in the *Massachusetts Archives*, vol. 121, page 21, against the laying out of the highway from Winnesmet to Reading as they contemplated, in which reference is made to his farm lands, the appointment of Mr. Lynde on a committee to take the matter into consideration, and the report of the committee thereon, in 1648; and his house is referred to in the final laying out of this road in 1653.

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In the year 1670, Ensign Thomas Lynde built a homestead on what is now the corner of Main Street and Goodyear Avenue, which, with its farm of many acres, was owned up to within a few years by one of his descendants of the sixth generation, another Joseph Lynde. Soon after, Ensign Thomas left his old home under Boston Rock and went to live with his son Joseph, where he remained until his death in 1693; and another son, Capt. John Lynde, occupied the old homestead of his father.

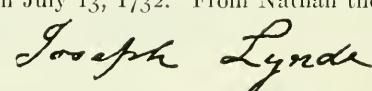
From Ensign Thomas Lynde descended all the Lyndes that are now living, or have lived in Melrose. He was one of the Selectmen of Malden during the years 1678, 1684, 5, 6, 7 and 8. He died Oct. 15, 1693, aged 77 years. By his will, dated Oct. 3, 1693, on file in the Probate Court at East Cambridge, he divided his farm between his sons Joseph and John; giving to Joseph the southern portion, and to John the northern. This farm embraced a region about as follows: Beginning at the southwestern corner and extending northerly along the line of Washington Street to near Wyoming Avenue; thence easterly along the line of that Avenue, and nearly or quite to Lebanon Street, then southerly, embracing the territory of Boston Rock, Wyoming Cemetery, Pine Banks Park, and Forest Dale Cemetery, to Forest Street in Malden; thence westerly to Washington Street, embracing "Island Hill," between Main Street and the Boston and Maine Railroad, which in early days was surrounded by the meadows of Three Mile Brook.

Joseph Lynde, born Dec. 13, 1652, who received the old homestead, and the southern and eastern part of the original farm, embracing what is now Wyoming Cemetery, died in 1736, at the age of eighty-three years, leaving his real estate to his son Joseph.

This farm of Dea. Joseph Lynde was bequeathed to his son Joseph, who was born September 2, 1690; and it was while in his possession that the changes in the old house, heretofore spoken of, were made, leaving its outward appearance about as now seen. In finishing and embellishing the parlor, he adorned the large, old-fashioned fireplace with tiling. His father considered this a piece of extravagance, and was so incensed that he struck one of the tiles so hard with his cane that it broke; and it so remained for many years. When this house passed out of the possession of the Lynde family, a few years since, during a time of some repairs, these tiles mysteriously disappeared. [One of them is set in the chimney of my house.] [L.S.G.]

Joseph Lynde was an active man in town affairs; was one of the Selectmen for fifteen years, between 1735 and 1760, and a member of the Legislature in the years 1739, 1741 and 1743. He died March 16, 1763, aged 72 years. In his will he bequeaths his "Negro Dimah," and his farm to his son Nathan, who was born July 13, 1732. From Nathan the homestead descended to his son Joseph, born July 30, 1769; and he bequeathed it to his son Joseph, who was born Nov. 19, 1804, and never married. He tilled its acres until he died in 1875, at the age of seventy years, when the homestead passed into the possession of his sister, Mrs. Rebecca Lynde Eaton; and in 1881, the farm, then consisting of 175 acres, was bought by Hon. Elisha S. Converse of Malden. Thus had these original acres remained in possession of the Lynde family, descending from father to son, through seven generations, and for a period of nearly two and a half centuries. While the farm and homestead was in the possession of the Lyndes, it always evidenced thrift and enterprise. Beautifully situated in the valley between ranges of hills, its spacious mansion, shaded by tall ancestral elms, its well-tilled acres, large and commodious barns, well filled with the products of the farm, flocks of sheep and herds of cattle, all indicated one of the good old-fashioned New England homesteads, which, alas! grow scarcer as the years go by!

Capt. John Lynde, who received from his father, Ensign Thomas, the northern part of the farm, left the old original house at the foot of Boston Rock and built his new house in 1693, and it stood where lived the late Warren Lynde. The farm and new homestead is now owned by his son, Henry Lynde.



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Warren Lynde, of the seventh generation, was born May 15, 1799, and died in 1888 at the age of eighty-nine years. The old house first built by Ensign Thomas Lynde, near the entrance to the Wyoming Cemetery was abandoned. The old cellar-hole and well existed until the wall of the cemetery was built. The story is told among the Lynde descendants, of a very severe winter in those early times. A long-continued snow-storm completely buried the house from sight; and the relatives and neighbors went to the house on snow-shoes, and could only communicate with the snow-entombed family from the top of the chimney, through which provisions were passed and the inmates thus kept from starvation.

The Warren Lynde house, with its contents, was burned April 10, 1819, in the night time, the family barely escaping with their lives, and the present capacious mansion was built the following year by Warren's father, Benjamin Lynde, born Oct. 2, 1758, who inherited the place by will from his father, Joseph, together with "Island Hill" district of fifteen acres, situated in Malden just south of the Melrose line, and the sixty acre "Hill Pasture" now known as Boston Rock. Benjamin was a member of Captain Benjamin Blaney's Malden company that marched to Lexington, April 19, 1775, "to resist the ministerial troops."

Another Lynde homestead was that of another Joseph, brother of Benjamin, who died in 1798, giving to his son John, grandfather of A. Wilbur Lynde, his farm of thirty acres situated between Grove and Upham Street, east of Lebanon Street, together with the homestead now standing on the corner of Grove and Lebanon Streets.

Two other farms joining this on the easterly side, belonging to John and Samuel Grover, were purchased and added to this in 1786. The old homestead still remains in the possession of the Lyndes, the present owners being Miss Louisa Lynde, and Mrs. William Lynde, but the farm, together with some adjoining land, was bought in 1856, by Hon. Daniel W. Gooch, Walter Littlefield and Otis Clapp; surveyed, streets built, and laid out in house lots, under the name of the "Home Association." Several lots in the square between East Foster, Sixth, Laurel and Larrabee Streets were reserved, and they form what is now known as "The Common." Most of these lots were then sold, or soon afterwards, and have been very generally built upon. Additional tracts of land were afterwards bought and many dwellings built thereon. The whole region has come to be known as East Side.

There were still other Lynde homesteads. The very old house on the corner of Glen and Russell Streets, is still in possession of the Lyndes, being owned by Franklin G. Lynde, who inherited it through a number of generations, from the original owner, Captain John Lynde, who inherited the land from Ensign Thomas Lynde. It was built about 1700, by Captain Lynde, for his son John, born April 1, 1672; afterwards it was bought by Jabez Lynde, born January 10, 1744; from whom it descended to the late Jonathan Lynde, born January 15, 1785, grandfather of the present owner; and who died in 1869, aged eighty-five years. The oldest portion of this house, to which an addition was built many years ago, with its low-studded, beam-crossed ceilings, is two centuries old. In it was born the late Aaron Green, whose father once tilled the farm, which then embraced the estate now owned by heirs of the late Hon. Daniel Russell; also the land now Russell Park. [This house was burned recently.] [L. S. G.]

Captain John Lynde also built for his son Thomas, born Oct. 24, 1685, at about the same time, 1700, the old house situated about one hundred rods west of the previous one, being the last house on Washington Street before reaching the Stonham line.

The Sprague families have ever been very prominent and intimately connected with the history of this town from its earliest days. It is quite certain that our territory was visited and traversed by the three brothers, Ralph Sprague, Richard Sprague and William Sprague, who came over from England, at their own cost.

There is no doubt whatever, but that the Spragues and their companions, were the

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FOR ALL OCCASIONS



THE RESTORED PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE AND GROUNDS

first civilized men whose feet trod upon the soil, and whose eyes gazed upon the territory now Melrose, and who explored it with the view of making a permanent settlement.

As early as 1638, the Spragues (having left Salem and settled in Charlestown in 1629), both Ralph and Richard owned by allotment, a large tract of land near Ell Pond, naming it "Pond Feilde."

This covered a large part of what is now the westerly part of the town. Ralph Sprague had "Ninetic acres of land by estimation, more or lesse, seittuate in Pond feilde," and Richard had

"sixtie acres of land by estimation, more or lesse, seittuate in pond feilde, bounded on the one side by Ralph Sprague, on the northeast by ell pond and the river [that comes through the meadow into Ell pond.—Green,] and on the northwest by the comon."

All this territory belonging to Charlestown, north of the Mystic River, was then called Mystic Side.

These three Spragues were the sons of Edward Sprague, a fuller, of Upway, County of Dorset, England. Ralph and Richard were both prominent in Charlestown affairs, both being among the founders of the Church, members of the General Court, Selectmen *William Sprague* for several years, and officers in the Boston Artillery Company. William removed to Hingham, where he also became prominent in town affairs.

Richard and William Sprague signed the document establishing the first Board of Selectmen in Charlestown, and Ralph was one of the eleven Selectmen then elected, February 10, 1635.

Richard S Sprague

In 1640, Thomas Coytmore, quite often spelled Coitmore, who became a freeman in that year, and who was one of the Deputies to the General Court from Charlestown, in 1640 and 1641, built first a dam, and then a mill at Black Rock, on Three Myle Brook, Mystic Side, on the power made by the water flowing from Ell and Spot Ponds, joining as they did at Wyoming; thus furnishing grist-mill privileges to these increasing families of Mystic Siders.

Years afterwards this site was utilized for manufacturing purposes. In 1806, three brothers, George, Thomas and Ebenezer Odiorne, purchased the land and water-power at Black Rock, and established the manufacture of nails; being the first to cut and head them by one operation. William Barrett had previously, in 1803, established the silk-dyeing business, on a site near the Odiorne mill.

Among those who left Charlestown and settled in Mystic Side, was Ralph Sprague, who built a homestead a little to the northwest of the Coytmore mill. Dying in 1660, he bequeathed this home- stead and its farm to his sons John and Phineas; and his farm in Pond Feilde, near Ell Pond, to his sons Rich-ard and Samuel.

Ralph Sprague

The oldest son, John, bought this Ell Pond farm of his brothers Richard and Samuel in 1652. The part belonging to Richard contained sixty-seven acres of ploughed and meadow land, and was the westerly half. His homestead stood near Barrett Mount, on the southerly side of Maple Street, about twenty rods west of Vinton Street. The old cellar was visible within the memory of some now living. John Sprague was one of the Selectmen of Malden for many years, and a Representative to the General Court in 1690. He was one of the committee on behalf of Malden to lay out the old road of 1653, from WInnesemit to Reading.

John Sprague died June 25, 1692, aged 68, and by his will bequeathed his farm to his sons John and Phineas; John living on the old Maple Street place; and for Phineas a homestead was built out of the estate. This house stood where now stands the residence

of L. Frank Hinckley, on West Foster Street, near the junction of Florence, Vinton and Maple Streets. The old well belonging to this homestead, with its ancient well-sweep, was on the opposite side of the street, near where now stands the beautiful and symmetrical elm tree; the spot is now covered by Florence Street, then only a pathway. This well was in use as late as 1850.

Phineas Sprague, brother of John, died in 1736. He left two sons, Phineas and Samuel, to whom he bequeathed his two farms; and for Phineas he built, in 1720, a homestead on the spot where now stands the residence of the late Mrs. Liberty Bigelow, on West Foster Street, and to Samuel he gave the old homestead, which he afterwards deeded to his brother Phineas, in 1761. *Middlesex Deeds*, book 63, p. 198. This Phineas died in 1775; and by his will the property passed into the possession of his son Phineas, the fourth of the name, who was born in 1725, in this West Foster Street house, where he lived and died. He had several sons, to one of whom, Jonathan, he gave the old homestead built for Phineas, the first of the name; which, having stood a hundred years, he demolished, and built the house now occupied by Mr. Hinckley. Another son was also named Phineas, the fifth of that name; but at the death of the father, Phineas, in 1805, at the age of eighty years, his homestead passed into the possession of another son, Cotton Sprague, who owned it until 1830, when it was sold, and was no longer owned by the Spragues. Cotton Sprague was a prominent and influential citizen. He was a member of the Legislature for the years 1823, '24, '25 and '26. In 1828 this place was bought by William Foster of Boston, who demolished the old house, and built the one now standing and owned by Mr. Decius Beebe. The very large, magnificent elms in front of this estate are more than a century old.

Phineas seems to have been a favorite name in the Sprague families; and Phineas, the fourth, was the father of the late Captain Phineas Sprague, who was born in 1777, during the Revolution, and who in 1812, built the house now standing, on Main Street, opposite Ell Pond, in which he spent a long life, dying in 1869, at the age of ninety-two years. He was a shoe manufacturer, and continued to make and carry his shoes to Boston until within the last year of his life. "He was a worthy citizen, highly esteemed and respected by all who knew him."

One of the sons of this Phineas, was Dr. John Sprague, who was born January 13, 1754, in the old Foster Street homestead, but became a resident of Malden Centre, where he practiced medicine for thirty years. He served as surgeon's mate in Col. Ebenezer's Bridge's Regiment, in the early part of the Revolutionary War; entered the naval service as surgeon, was taken prisoner in 1777.

The original way of travelling from these Sprague houses to Malden Centre, was in a pathway which was nearly on a line of the present Cleveland Street, crossing Spot Pond Brook, thence over the Lynde farm to what is now Washington Street, the present "back-road" to Malden.

As were the Lyndes, almost the sole proprietors of what is now the southern territory of Melrose, so were the Greens, for a long while during the early years, settlers and owners of what is now the Melrose Highlands, and a large part of Greenwood, in Wakefield, which, doubtless, received its name from that family; their land also extended westerly into Stoneham as far as Doleful Pond. Then came another of the older families, the Vintons, who, intermarrying with the Greens, in process of time came to possess a large part of the Highlands territory; holding it until about the time the Boston and Maine Railroad was built, in 1845, when, during the next few years, the land ownership almost wholly passed from both families into the possession of the fast growing population of that part of Melrose.

The first settler in these Highlands was Thomas Green, who was born in England about 1606, came to America in 1635, and to Malden as early as October 28, 1651, when his wife Elizabeth, and daughter bearing the same name, together with thirty-four others signed

A cursive handwritten signature of the name "John Sprague". The signature is fluid and elegant, with "John" on the first line and "Sprague" on the second line, with a small "J" preceding the "S".

The BOSTON TRANSCRIPT

A New England Institution with Traditions High and Principles Lofty—A Newspaper with Great Advertising Patronage and Marvelous in Business Results

"I would as lief go without my dinner as without the Boston Transcript," remarked the president of one of the largest industrial concerns in America. This man lives and breathes New England. His father before him believed that Boston was the center of the visible earth, and that tradition will be handed down to generations yet unborn.

The Boston Transcript is the guide, philosopher and friend of the men who now mould the financial destiny of New England—and for that matter of the United States.

The circulation of the Transcript is that seductive element which compels admiration. The hallmark of superiority is the trade-mark of the Transcript. It is to New England what the London Times is to Old England.

The Transcript is as rock-bound in its advocacy of Americanism—the true Americanism—as the London Times is the voice of England's "die-hards."

The Transcript believes in the broader Americanism and the toleration which honest men give to creed and class.

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When it comes to results in advertising, the Transcript shines brightly. There are other papers in Boston with circulation considerably larger, but the circulation of the Transcript is a three-cent-a-copy, "pay-as-you-enter" kind.

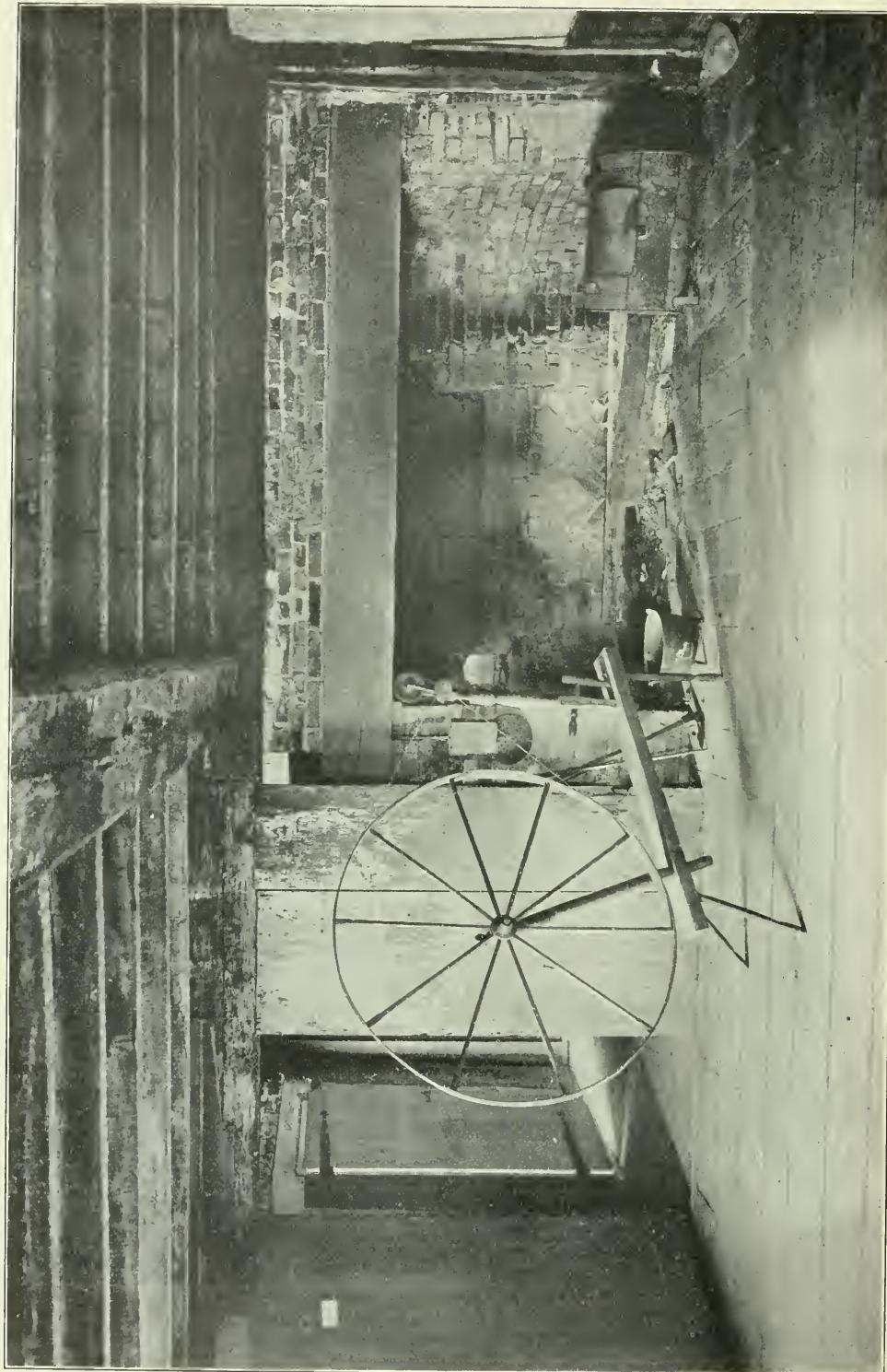
As a matter of interest, if Boston represents one-sixteenth of the wealth of the country, it is 16 to 1 that the people who have this wealth buy goods that are advertised in the Transcript.

—*Printers' Ink.*



The most adequate, Sanitary and up-to-date milk establishment in Melrose. Milk from this station is produced on honor.

FORBES BROTHERS 36 Warren St., Melrose Highlands, Mass.



FIREPLACE IN EAST ROOM OF THE PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE

a petition to the General Court, in behalf of Malden's minister, Rev. Marmaduke Matthews, praying for an excuse for some of his errors and failings. He was one of the Selectmen of Malden in 1653 and 1678, and served many times on the Grand Jury of the County of Middlesex. He came into possession of his farm at the Highlands in the following manner: Thomas Coytmore, who first settled in Charlestown, where he became quite an extensive land-owner, and where he was a Selectman, and Representative to the General Court, and who built the mill at Mystic Side in 1640, before spoken of, came into possession of one hundred and fifty acres of land lying north of Ell Pond. The following order gives the only instance known where the name of our Pond is given as Elme, as it is here in the margin, but not in the body of the order:

"1648

Ordered to lay out young Thos. Coitmore's two lots by Elme Pond. Bros. Robt. Hale and Thomas Lind to lay out young Thos. Coitmore's two lots by Ell pond, he to send one to go with them to help them."

Coytmore died in 1648. His widow married first, Gov. John Winthrop; and after his death in 1649, she married John Cogan, of Boston, and they came into possession of these one hundred and fifty acres. Four years later, in 1653, John and Martha Cogan sold and deeded one-half of this farm to Thomas Green. He built his homestead, a block house, on what is now the centre of Pratt Street, halfway between the present Franklin Street and Highland Avenue. It was built strongly, and used as a garrison and place of refuge in times of trouble between the early settlers of that region and the Indians. This old house was demolished about the year 1800.

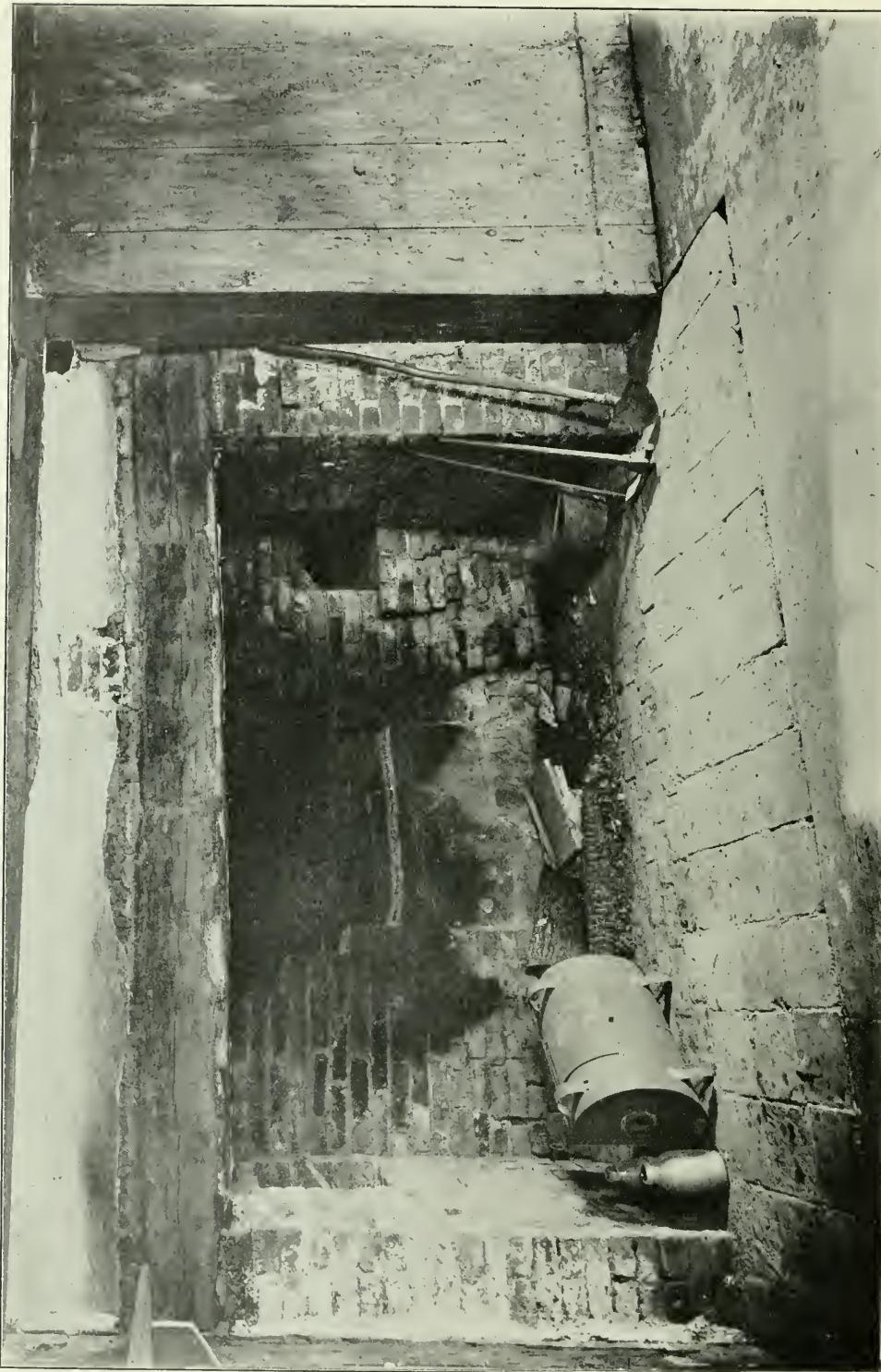
Thomas Green, was a passenger on the ship Paull, which sailed from London, and arrived in Virginia, July 6, 1635. Thomas Green bequeathed his farm to his sons, Capt. William and Henry, one-half each. William was made freeman in 1668; was member of the Malden Church, Captain of a Military Company, and Selectman of Malden for the years 1678, 1683 and 1702. William sold his half to his brother Samuel in 1670, and from that time Samuel occupied "the old mansion house." In 1684, he bought the other half of the farm of his brother Henry.

Afterwards this homestead reverted to John Green, son of William. He was a selectman of Stoneham in 1735. This was after this part of North Malden had been set off to Stoneham, which, years later, came back to Melrose. John's will mentions his son John, who has "my dwelling-house and farm and the land adjoining, that lyeth on the west side of the country road that leadeth from Malden to Reading, that was my grandfather's;" and son Jonas has "all my land on the east of the country road aforesaid." He built thereon a house, just this side of the Wakefield line, on Main Street, which disappeared a few years since.

John Green left his property to his son, John, who bequeathed it to his only son, John, who was a bachelor. Before the death of the latter, he devised it to William Green, or, more truly to his wife, Abigail Green, who lived with him many years, says the *Vinton Genealogy*, and took care of him in his old age, till the very end. At the death of Abigail Green, Nov. 6, 1848, she left the property to her sister Sarah, widow of Aaron Green, who was a descendant in the fifth generation from the Original Thomas, by another line. At her death the property went to her daughter Abigail, who married Edmund B. Southwick. This daughter, Abigail, was the sister of the late Aaron Green, who was born in the old Lynde house, on Russell Street, March 14, 1802, and who died April 23, 1882, eighty-two years of age. Mr. Green served several years as one of the Assessors of Melrose; was also on the School Committee.

There were other descendants of the original Thomas Green, who lived on other farms on the territory first Charlestown, then Malden, then Stoneham, and then Melrose. Others lived in Malden proper. Only the ownership of the homestead of the first settler is here traced.

Go:winthrop:Govd



FIREPLACE IN WEST ROOM OF THE PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE

In 1682, John, Henry and Samuel Green, bought of Thomas Robinson and John Floyd, the northerly part of a farm north of Ell Pond, bounded easterly by the "Redding highway, northerly and westerly on the Common land southerly by ye said Greens land." It was in what is now Melrose Highlands. On this farm was built the homestead for John Green. Henry Green's farm and house was situated near the corner of Franklin and Vinton Streets, and it afterward passed into the possession of the Vintons. Isaac, son of above Samuel, had his homestead on what is now Ashland Street, a few rods south of Franklin Street. In 1758, he sold his estate to Thomas and Hannah Vinton. Hannah was Isaac's daughter. The farm consisted of nineteen acres, and was "bounded northerly and northeasterly by a Lane that goes from my dwelling house to the County Road." This line is now Ashland Street, and the County road Franklin Street.

Another Isaac Green, a grandson of Thomas, lived about half a mile west of the Highlands Station. He was a Selectman of Stoneham in the years of 1745, '53, and '58.

Among these other descendants were the following who lived in Stoneham: Deacon Joseph Green, whose farm was near where the Highlands Station now is. He was a Selectman of Stoneham in 1747, '49, '54, '5 and '8. April 16, 1770, he sold half of his farm to Thomas Vinton, and April 15, 1777, the other half to Ezra Vinton, a brother of Thomas; Captain Josiah Green, who was born in 1735, and lived on the county road from Stoneham to Lynn about three-quarters of a mile west of the Highlands Station, on Howard Street. He was Selectman 1781, '6, '7, 1791 and '92. His first wife, Elizabeth Green, died in 1798, having borne him eight children. He then, at the age of 64, married Sarah Skinner, a woman twenty-two years of age, and forty-two years younger than himself.

Many descendants of Thomas Green settled in Malden proper, and attained prominence in civic, town and military affairs. In the will of one of them, Deacon Daniel Green, grandson of Thomas, born in 1681, he bequeathed to his wife Mary, his "negro woman and children." Another grandson, Jacob, born in 1689, kept a diary, or "book of memorabilia: Jacob Green, his Writing Book," which is still preserved. It is a small leather-bound volume, $3\frac{1}{2}$ by 6 inches containing about 140 pages. It is mostly in the handwriting of Jacob, but partly in that of his son, Rev. Jacob Green.

A great-grandson of Thomas was William Green, born in 1683. He was a carpenter.

As has been seen, this original Green farm was situated first in Charlestown, then in Malden, then set off to Stoneham, and then, in 1853, it was set off to Melrose; and it was in the possession of the Greens for over two centuries.

The late Elbridge Green, who built the house now standing at No. 467 Main Street, was the son of Reuben, a descendant of the sixth generation from the original Thomas Green. He was born in 1811, and died Feb. 21, 1898, aged eighty-seven years. He held several town offices. He was the first Town Clerk after Melrose was incorporated. He served as Moderator at one Town Meeting, as Assessor for three years, and was on the School Committee two or three years. He was an upright and exemplary citizen; "a gentleman of the old school."

There are still Green descendants living at the Highlands; among them Levi W. Green, of the seventh generation, now living on Franklin Street, whose father, Peter Green, lived on "Green Lane," some of this land is still owned by the Greens. Another is Mrs. Emily G. Cochrane, daughter of the late Aaron Green, and mother of Maurice G. Cochrane, formerly one of our Park Commissioners.

Captain Jonathan Green, of "Green Lane," was of the fourth generation from Thomas. He was a leading man in Stoneham for many years; captain of a military company; Selectman twenty years; Town Clerk and Treasurer twenty-five years; member of the Convention assembled in Boston, in 1788, to ratify the Constitution of the United States. His farm contained 215 acres. His house, still standing, and occupied by a descendant, is near the line between Melrose and Stoneham. It was built early in the 18th century, and has been occupied by five generations of Jonathan Greens. Tradition says that the builder utilized one end of his house for a while as a barn.

Previous to the time of setting off the ten families living on the territory now Greenwood to Reading, in 1727, some of those living on territory farther south, now Melrose, were dissatisfied with their Church privileges; and May 15, 1722, it is recorded:

"John Green Att ye farms [the original homestead at the Highlands] Samll Green Jonathan barritt [between Upham and Porter Streets] And seural othars yt petitiond with Them: doe desier: Abatement on Ther ministars Reats: by Reson as they say They doe liue more conuenant To Go [to] Reding meting Then To malden meting:

It was putt To vote To see whethar ye Town will abate Those petitionars The one half of There ministars Reates.

And it past in ye negitiae:

And just before the division was made this action was taken.

"it was put to vote whether the Town will have two meating houses in this Town and ye vote was past in ye negetive. it was put to vote whether ye Town will Alow ye people in ye north Eand of this Town some money to help them to provid themselfe with preaching in ye winter sesons and it past in ye negative.””

But a little later, May 22, it was voted:

"that ye teen famelys yt have petitioned to be Laid off from this Town, unto ye Town of Reding, have Liberty to goe to Reding with there Estates Acording to their petition."

This left the Greens of the woods, Barretts, Uphams and others still unaccommodated and with rates unabated; and yet many years were they necessitated to go to Malden centre for town and church privileges.

All the Malden and Melrose Barretts descended from James Barrett, who was born in England in 1615, came to New England in 1635, and settled in Charlestown. His name does not appear among those who were admitted freemen; but the *Charles town Records* of 1643, state that "James Barrett was admitted Townsman 'with manifestation yt he is not to expect any allotmt of land.'" By industry and enterprise he accumulated considerable property; and there are upon record many conveyances of real estate to and from him. In a deed to Peter Tufts in 1653 he is called "Plantor." His farm was in Mystic Side, in that portion of it now the city of Everett, not far from where the Eastern Railroad crosses the main street from Malden to Boston. In 1656, he was chosen Highway Surveyor in Charlestown, for Mystic Side.

James Barrett died in 1672. His son James, born in 1644, settled at the north end of Boston, near Copp's Hill, and his son James, born in 1672, came into possession of his grandfather's farm at Mystic Side. He became a prominent man in Malden, serving as Selectman for several years, and acting on many important committees. Among his possessions was a saw-mill at Spot Pond. *The Bi-Centennial Book of Malden*, has the following items connected with this James Barrett:

"In 1708, April 2, Deacon Greenland has liberty to build a pew. It was voted at that time, "That if James Baret will make up the twenty eight shillings, which the town is in detted to him for worke at the meting house, forty shillings, then he shall have as conveneant seat in the meting hous as his naberas have." Among other necessary appendages of an old-fashioned meeting-house in New England were the horse-blocks and stables. The first notice we find of these in Malden, is under date of Dee. 9, 1698; it was voted "that Tryall Nubry, Simon Grovar, Samuell Buckman, william pain, james Barrit, and John Greenland, hath the priveleg of a peece of land of 24 foots long and 9 foots wide, from ye South west corner of ye parsonage garding westwardly along by ye stone wall, Granted them by a town vote for to set a stable to shelter their horses on the Sabath days."

Deacon Jonathan Barret, a brother of James, born in 1678, was also a Selectman of Malden for many years, served on numerous committees, and was many times Moderator

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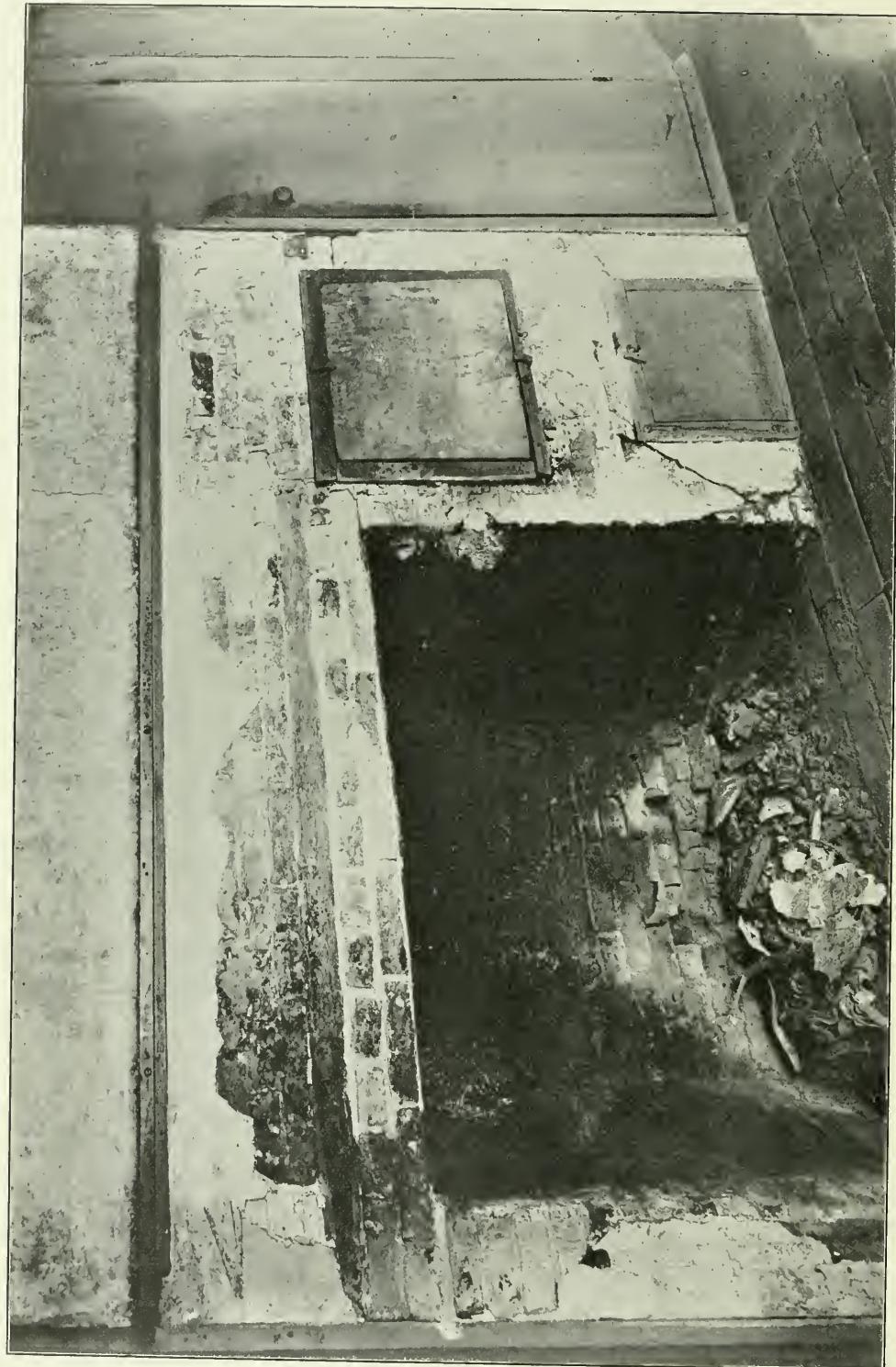
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FIREPLACE AND BRICK OVEN IN THE PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE

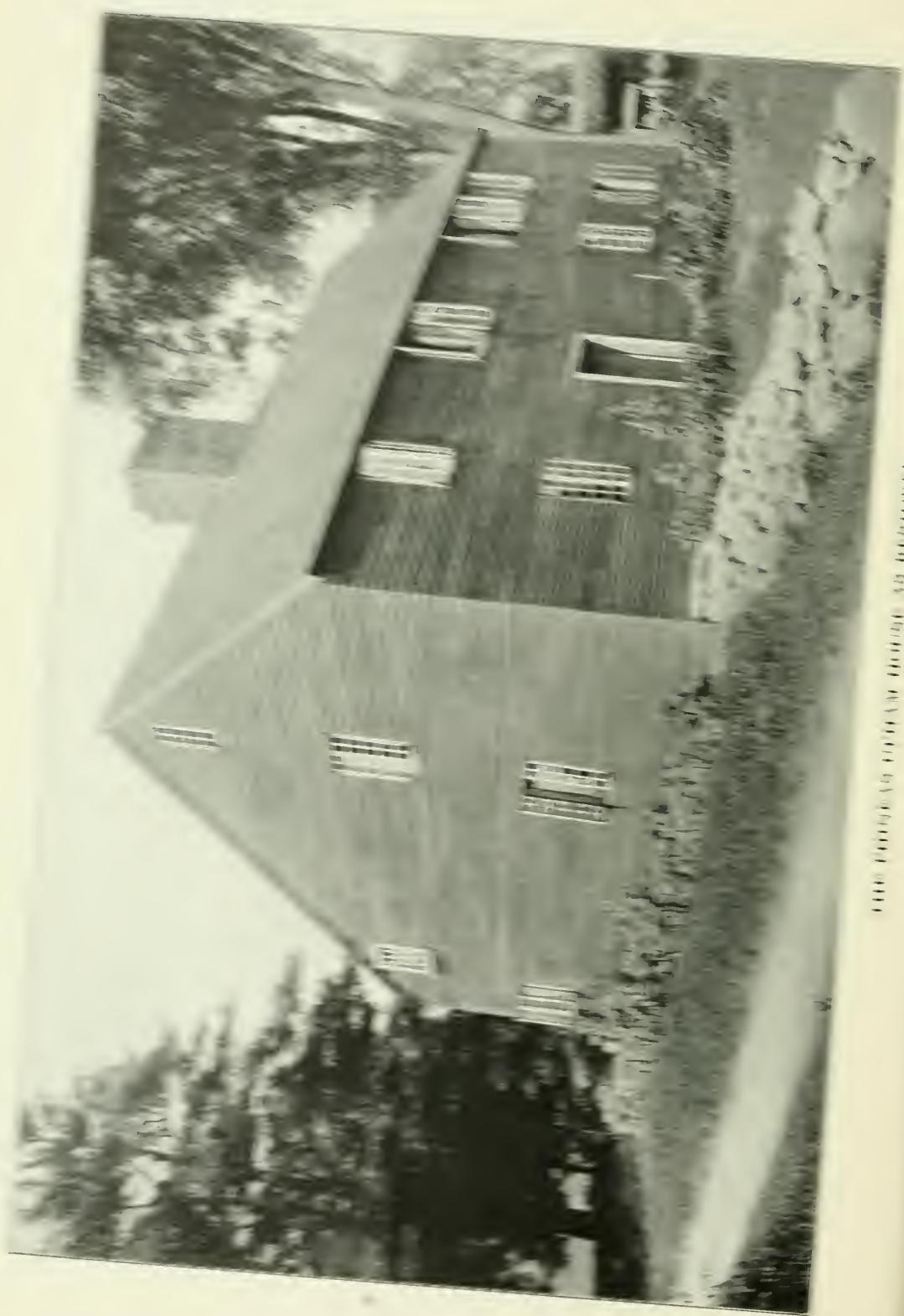
of the Town Meetings. These two brothers took opposite sides in the long and bitter contest in Malden, which grew out of the location for the new meeting-house, which was finally settled by building it on the spot where recently stood the Universalist Church of Malden. Deacon Barrett came to North Malden about the year 1700, and his farm and homestead was situated on the "East Side;" the house being about half-way between Upham and Porter Streets. Its site, with the stone filled cellar-hole, still exists. It is on the highest rise, a little way to the west of School Street. In 1714, Mr. Barrett was one of the petitioners for the laying out of Upham Street. Porter Street was then called Barrett Lane. He was one of the Selectmen of Malden for the years 1725, '26, '31, '36, '37, '38, '39, '40, and '44. He died in 1749, aged seventy-two years, and Jonathan's son Joseph came into possession of the old homestead and its farm.

Joseph Barrett died in 1758. His son Joseph, after becoming of age, bought the old homestead, built by his grandfather, Jonathan, of the other heirs. In 1781, he bought an adjoining estate of John Gould, which was situated on the north side of Porter Street, then Barrett Lane. The old Gould house was enlarged and improved by Joseph Barrett, and it became his homestead in which he passed the rest of his days. This was the estate long occupied by the late Charles Porter, and now owned by Albert M. Smith. An uncle of this Joseph, James Barrett, owned a farm which joined the homestead farm of Joseph, on the east and north side of Porter Street. He sold to James Nichols, and the house was burned a few years ago. At the death of Joseph his landed property consisted of his homestead, with thirty-one acres, the old Jonathan Barrett homestead lot of twenty-one acres, the Pine Hill lot of fourteen acres, and a few other small lots.

Joseph brought up a large family of children on this Barrett Lane homestead. The oldest son was Captain Jonathan Barrett, who was born in 1775, and who made his home in the western part of the town, on a farm that came into his possession in the following manner: In 1699, John Sprague sold the west part of his farm to Deacon John Pratt. It contained eighty acres. The house had been built many years and was the one his grandfather bought of his brother Richard in 1652. It was situated on the south side of what is known as Barrett Mount, about twenty rods west of the corner of Vinton and Foster Streets. After the death of John Pratt, in 1742, the property came into the possession of Isaac Green, who married Mary, the daughter of Pratt. Tradition says that Green demolished the old Sprague house, which had stood a hundred years or more, and used the materials in building what came to be known as the "Mountain House," corner of Vinton and Maple Streets, recently removed. The farm and new homestead then became the property of Benoni Vinton, who married Mary, the daughter of Isaac Green. She afterwards married Joseph Lynde, and when a widow sold this estate to Captain Jonathan Barrett, in 1806. The homestead was then enlarged, and became one of the finest residences in the north part of Malden. It was around and near this house that was situated what used to be known, eighty or ninety years ago, as "the village;" and here, from different parts of the sparsely settled portion of the town, would congregate the people, for games, social chat and amusements. The nearest house to "the village," other than the two Sprague houses, on Foster Street, was that of John Larrabee, the great-grandfather of the present John Larrabee, who for twenty-one years was our efficient Town Clerk, afterwards one of the Sewer Commissioners, City Treasurer in 1900, and Mayor in 1901-2. The Larrabee farm consisted of twenty-six acres, and was bought of the heirs of Benoni Vinton, in 1805. It extended to Youle Street on the north, and was bounded by Vinton Street on the east. He built his homestead on the corner of Vinton and Otis Streets, which is still standing, and belongs to the heirs of the late Smith W. Nichols.

In this old "Mountain house" of Capt. Barrett, was born a large family of children; among them, May 25, 1818, the late Artemas Barrett, to whom this history is indebted for many of its genealogical items connected with its old families. He died Jan. 12, 1897,

Jonathan Barrett



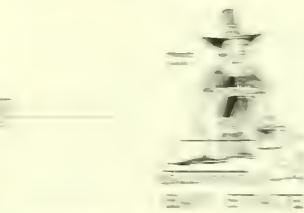
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being nearly seventy-nine years of age. He was a highly respected and honored citizen. He held many town offices, and was a Representative to the General Court in 1861.

At the death of Capt. Jonathan Barrett, the estate passed into the hands of his widow, Mrs. Fanny Barrett, who bought out the heirs, with the exception of her two minor sons, James and Artemas. In 1845, she conveyed the land in front of her house to these two sons, who, in the same year, conveyed the farm portion to Jeremiah Martin, for \$10,000 who established, and for many years carried on an extensive nursery business, on a portion of it, the balance being laid out in house lots, and dwellings built thereon. These nursery grounds were sold, after the death of Mr. Martin, and are now covered with many streets and residences. The old mansion house remained in possession of Mrs. Barrett until her death, in 1874. It has since been sold, removed to the corner of Tappan and Sanford Streets, and become a tenement house.

UPHAM—The name is an ancient one. It was one of the first to be used as a surname, being found in the English *Charter Rolls*—which were “registers of royal grants of lands, honors, dignities, hereditary offices, liberties,” etc.—as early as 1208. It came from an estate that bore that name, such a place being mention in the *Domesday Book*, as belonging to the time of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066); and there are places in England today bearing that name, and in one of them, situated sixty-five miles from London, was born Edward Young, the author of *Night Thoughts*. The name Upham was probably formed by uniting the Anglo Saxon words up, high, and ham, a home, dwelling or hamlet, meaning thus: “the Home on the Hill.”

John Upham, the progenitor of all that bear his name in America, was born in Bicton Parish, on the River Otter, in 1597, and came to this country in 1635. He first settled in Weymouth, which town he represented several times in the General Court. In 1642, he was appointed one of the Commissioners to treat with the Indians in obtaining a title to the Weymouth territory. He removed to Malden in 1648, where he became one of its leading citizens. As early as 1651 he was one of the Selectmen, an office he held several years. He was several times appointed Commissioner “to settle the lesser legal matters of Weymouth and Malden.” He was also deacon of the Church for twenty-four years. The following is the inscription on his tombstone, which is near the centre of the old Bell Rock Cemetery in Malden:

“Here lyes ye Body of John Upham aged 84 yrs. Died Febry 25, 1681.”

His son, Lieut. Phineas Upham, born in 1635, soon after his parents’ arrival in America, was an active officer in King Philip’s War. The headquarters of our troops in the Connecticut Valley, during this war, at this time, was at Hadley. Major Pynchon, not feeling equal to the task of commanding longer, resigned. Captain Samuel Appleton was appointed by the General Court to take his place, and Lieut. Upham of Malden was selected to bear through the intervening wilderness the necessary dispatches. Following is the order:

“Sr Wee have ordered Lt Upham to lead up to you 30 men and do further order that Lt Scill be dismissed home to his family, and his souldjers to make up some of ye companie as yt chiefe Commander shall order and ye above named Lt Upham to be Lt under Capt Wayte. These for Major John Pynchon.”

This was dated Sept. 4, 1675. He arrived at his destination on the 12th, and from that time was in active service, conducting many scouting parties and expeditions. At the battle of the Narraganset Fort, Dec. 19, 1675, when one thousand Indian warriors were slain or wounded and eighty-six English killed and one hundred and fifty wounded, Lieut. Upham was severely wounded being in command of his company after the death of Capt. Johnson. Of this sanguinary fight the historian, Hubbard, says:

“It is hard to say who acquitted themselves best in that day’s service either the soldiers for their manlike valor in fighting, or the Commanders for their wisdom and courage; leading on in the Face of Death.”



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After lingering some ten months from the effects of this wound, Lieut. Upham died, in October, 1676, at the age of 41 years. He was highly respected as a citizen, and was eminent in the military service.

In battle Lieutenant Upham exhibited the character of a brave man and patriot, purchasing with mortal wounds the palm of victory; and the government was not unmindful of his great sacrifice but bore testimony upon the records "to the long and good services he did to the country, and the great loss sustained by his friends in his death."

He was the direct ancestor of the Upham family in America being the only son of John Upham that left posterity. [Through his son, Nathaniel, he was an ancestor of the Gould family by the marriage of his daughter Lois to James Hill in 1727.] [L. S. G.]

One of his children, Phineas, the eldest son, became a prominent citizen of Malden. For fourteen years he was one of the Selectmen; Town Treasurer for several years; deacon of the Church; several times Moderator of the Town Meeting; and for five years Representative to the General Court. He died in October 1720, at the age of 62 years, and was buried in the cemetery at Malden.

It was his oldest son, born June 10, 1682, and bearing the same name, Phineas, a favorite one with the Uphams, who came to Melrose, then North Malden, and settled on Upham Hill, in the year 1703. At the same time it is recorded, that "Phineas Upham and Tamzen Hill were joined in marriage, ye 23d of November, 1703, by Mr. Wigglesworth;" and from them have descended all of the many Melrose Uphams, and many others who have gone to other parts of the land, some of whom have become eminent as lawyers, ministers, authors, and statesmen.

Very soon after his marriage he built his homestead, and established his home "in their primitive dwelling on the wooded crest of Upham Hill."

This was situated on what is now the corner of Upham and Highview Avenue, where it remained until within a very few years, when it was removed a few rods south and now stands on Waverly Avenue.

Here Phineas and Tamzen Upham lived, and brought up a large family of seven sons and six daughters. (See note by me on page 50 regarding this house.) [L. S. G.]

One of his sons, Jabez, became a doctor and settled in Brookfield, Massachusetts.

Phineas was one of the Selectmen of Malden for several years; two years Assessor, and many years Moderator of the Town Meetings. In the year 1707-8 he is mentioned as Ensign Phineas Upham. He died in 1766, at the age of eighty-three years. His wife died two years later, at the same age.

The oldest son of Phineas, born Jan. 14, 1708, was also named Phineas. He died in Malden, July 17, 1738, of the malignant throat distemper which prevailed in that year. Amos, another son of Phineas, born in 1718, succeeded to a portion of his father's acres and the old homestead still standing; and, in turn, his son, also named Amos, born in 1741, came into possession. (See pages 8, 28, 32, 34, 38, 40) This Amos and his brother William, were in Capt. Benjamin Blaney's Company, which marched to Watertown "upon the alarm on the 19th of April, 1775, and from thence to resist the ministerial troops."

It cannot be stated just when this old house was built, but evidently soon after the Phineas Upham house of 1703. Concerning this house, Miss Mary Elizabeth Upham, a direct descendant in the ninth generation, wrote the following description in 1890, for the *Upham Genealogy; The Descendants of John Upham of Massachusetts*:

The original house must have been quite small. A family tradition has taught us that it little more than covered the present cellar, which extends under less than half the building. A huge chimney — with a fire place ten feet long, and as high as the main room of the dwelling — rivaled the house itself in size.

John Upham

Phineas Upham

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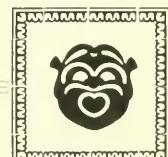
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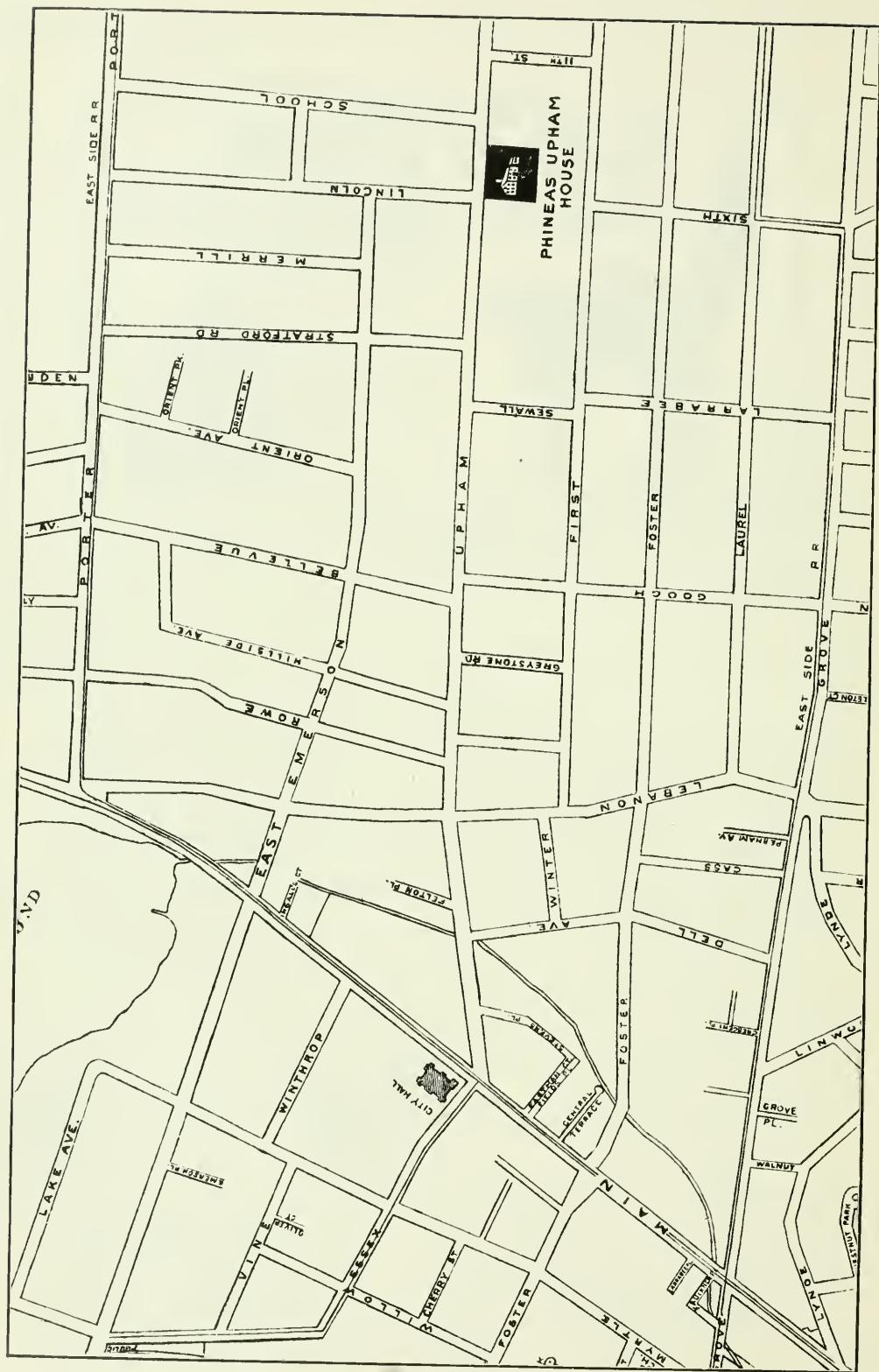
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But it was not long before the family outgrew its narrow quarters. Then was the first building supplemented by such additions that it came to be a large, substantial dwelling, thirty feet in length, and two stories high toward the south. On the north the roof sloped nearly to the ground. Later still (and yet so long ago that no one now living remembers it) the sloping roof was raised, so that the house is nearly two stories high on the north, today. In the old garret the original sloping rafters may yet be seen.

The front door of the house is away from the street on the south side. Crossing its smooth door-stone we enter a small passage-way from which a few stairs, with two-square landings, lead to the upper floor. At the right a low door-way admits us to a large room, eighteen feet square, presumably the "best room" of the house. Its low wainscot, and high mantel, the broad beams across the ceiling — but a short distance above our heads — and the long hearth of the primitive fireplace — all point to the age of the structure.

On the left of the front entry is another room, much like the first. The center of the house is occupied by the high chimney, and on the north are the smaller rooms. The oak beams are in many cases eighteen inches thick; and the walls are filled in with bricks and clay. The chimney is made of bricks of many sizes, and clay instead of mortar is used. The fire-places have been made smaller within a century, but the original hearths — in some of which square tiles are placed — are still left."

Amos' son Asa, born April 29, 1785, was the successor in the ownership of this old ancestral homestead; and here, under this same roof-tree, he passed a long life, dying in 1869, at the age of eighty-four years.

He could well remember when Malden had but one church, where all the town could worship God, and when that part now Melrose had but one small, rough schoolhouse, with its rough seats and large open fireplace and the school kept only two months in the year, the town very sparsely settled, with its narrow, rough and crooked pathway, travelled only on foot or horseback. . . . Mr. Upham was blest with a competence of this world's goods, but with what was far better, good health from the cradle almost to the grave. And what was still better, he has during his long life, travelled in the pathway of virtue and uprightness, and has gone down in his ripe old age to his final restingplace with an unblemished reputation, honored and respected by all who knew him.

And in this homestead a large family of children, of the eighth generation, was born; among them the late Eri, Asa, Orne and Benjamin R. Upham. Orne, born Sept. 25, 1820, succeeded his father as owner of the farm, wheron he spent a long, quiet, unostentatious life as a farmer, dying April 2, 1894, aged seventy-four years.

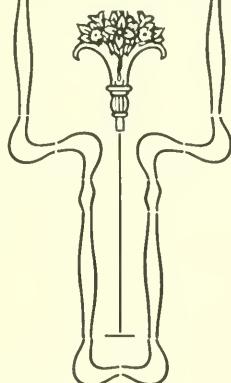
Eri Upham and Asa Upham, brothers, born respectively Sept. 7, 1813, and March 31, 1816, lived on Upham Street, near the old homestead, where they passed long lives; Eri dying July 2, 1897, at the age of 84 years, and Asa, Dec. 15, 1899, aged 83 years.

Another brother, Benjamin R., born April 5, 1823, lived for many years in the old Emerson mansion, on the corner of Main and Emerson Streets, where his widow, Rachal E., still lives. He died Nov. 30, 1892, at the age of seventy years. His son Frank Richardson, born Dec. 18, 1852, is Chairman of the Board of Assessors of Melrose.

Besides the Uphams already spoken of as having lived in the old homesteads on the original acres of the first Melrose Phineas, he had numerous other descendants who lived in other homesteads on Upham Hill. The Rev. Frederick Upham, D.D., "The Nestor of the M. E. Church," was the son of Samuel Sprague Upham, and was born October 4, 1799, and died March 20, 1891, at the age of ninety-two years. His brother, Freeman Upham, born December 7, 1811, for many years had his homestead on Main Street, and until the day of his death, May 25, 1900, was hale and hearty; he walked our streets during his last years with the appearance of a much younger man.

Another branch of the Upham residents on this hill, and descendants from the original Phineas, was Jesse, son of Timothy, who was born August 20, 1710, and of the fifth generation. Jesse was born March 18, 1745, and died August 23, 1825, at the age of eighty years.

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Jesse's son, also named Jesse, born November 8, 1775, lived in the original Phineas Upham homestead. He died April 5, 1860, aged eighty-five years.

[This Jesse was a very ardent Methodist and exceedingly quaint and eccentric. He is well remembered by the writer. The house he lived in originally stood on what is now the corner of Highview Avenue and Upham Street and was built about, (perhaps a little before) 1703. In my boyhood days I was in it many times. It was without doubt the first one built on one of the old Range-Ways, now called Upham Street. It was bought about 45 years ago by a Lynn man who moved it to Waverly Avenue where it now stands with no outward traces of its more than two centuries. [L. S. G.]]

Jesse's son, Joshua Upham, born Dec. 27, 1806, built his house on Upham Street, near East Street. Joshua died January 16, 1871, at the age of sixty-four years. His brother George, born October 4, 1810, lived in his grandfather Jesse's house. Here he dwelt, cultivating these aeres, until February 13, 1872, when he died at the age of sixty-two years. His homestead was on the corner of Upham Street and Waverly Avenue, and must have been built at least one hundred and fifty years ago.

Still another Upham farm and homestead built in 1876, was situated on Upham Street, that of Nathan Upham, son of Amos, born February 28, 1781, and died in 1845, aged 64 years. This was on the north side, between Upham and Porter Streets. This farm was inherited by his two sons, Eli and Albert, two bachelors, who tilled its soil for many years; and finally lost possession because they would not set back a small carriage or tool house in order to widen Upham Street; being ordered so to do, first by the town authorities, and then by the County Commissioners. As they were determined not to move it, it was done by the State, the necessary tax levied, refusal to pay, citation in Court, non-appearance, defalcation decreed, and the estate sold to Nathaniel P. Jones, and thus passing out of the possession of the Uphams forever. Quite a portion of the farm has been sold in house lots, and many of our finest residences built thereon.

The brick house, on what is now known as the "Parker Place," was also built by an Upham, Joshua, son of the senior Jesse, in 1810. He was a master-mason of Salem. The road leading from the present Upham Street, just to the east of this residence, built in 1796, was the old way to Saugus and Lynn. This Upham house was sold sometime during the war of 1812, to a Mr. Peale.

Time was when the old original Phineas, the Amos Upham, and the George Upham houses were the only ones existing on what is now Upham Street, once Upham Lane, or the old county road to Saugus.

Just over the brow of the hill, at the extreme end of East Foster Street, there exists what may be called an Upham Cemetery, but what remains visible has more the semblance of a tomb; the door has disappeared, and the entrance has been walled up. Here were buried the two Jesse Uphams, father and son, their wives and many of their children. There was also entombed, Thomas Smith, who married a daughter of Jesse Upham and his wife, also Mr. Towle, who once lived on the Parker Place. There were graves outside the tomb, in which burials were allowed; among them, a negro named Johnson and his wife, and quite a number of others. These graves were entirely obliterated, years ago, by plowing and cultivating the soil. The tract embraced some ten thousand feet, and originally fenceed; but that also dissappeared, and nothing but the face of the undoored tomb now remains, in an open, unprotected field.

[Johnson the negro had a cabin down in a thicket near a spring now in the vicinity of Grove Street and Cumner Avenue,— There he lived alone until he attained a great age. My father attended him in his last sickness and we were both present at the funeral. This was in the "forties" All bodies from the old tomb have been re-interred in Wyoming Cemetery. [L. S. G.]]

On the north side of Lynde Street, a few rods east of where Summer Street intersects, there once stood a very old house, built by John Pratt, who, at his death in 1743, gave it

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with twelves acres of land to his grandson David Green, who sold it to Amos Upham. Mr. Upham was a blacksmith; the only one in this part of the town; and his shop was nearby his dwelling. These were situated on the original 1653 road. In those days, besides shoeing horses and cattle, and repairing carts, a great variety of work was done at the blacksmith's shop; here all kinds of agricultural implements then used were made; ploughshares, axes, spades, hoes, scythes, etc.; also all kinds of household utensils; and a blacksmith's shop was a much frequented place.

This property passed into the hands of William Upham, of the fifth generation, in 1777. He was born August 7, 1747, and was a soldier in the Revolution; being in the battle at Bunker Hill, and at White Plains, where he was wounded and crippled for life.

On the opposite side of the street, on the rising ground, stands the little one-story Dolly Upham house, built by William Upham, in 1812, for his son William. In 1845, this property passed out of the possession of the Uphams.

The HOWARDS were among the original families occupying the territory of Melrose. Peter Tufts, who seems to have been a land speculator, owing large tracts of land in this region, sold, in 1663, to Samuel Howard, then of Charlestown, his farm land, which was situated in what is now the centre of Melrose. It is described in the *Middlesex Deeds*, book 3, page 276, as lying at Ell Pond, and is embraced within the following bounds:

"Northerly by sd Ell Pond, easterly by the brook from sd Ell Pond and southerly by the brook running from Spot Pond, westerly by John Sprague's farme."

This latter line has been described as running northerly from Spot Pond brook, through Cottage Street, crossing Foster Street and the railroad east of Mr. Decius Beebe's house, and so on a straight line to the head of Ell Pond. Mr. Howard, who came from England in 1635, in the ship "Elizabeth," built a house on the border of Ell Pond, on the east side and near its outlet. He also built a dam across the outlet, and erected a sawmill thereon. Samuel Howard died about 1681, his estate passing into the possession of his heirs. His son Samuel had the homestead of twenty acres, with the sawmill, bounded north by Ell Pond and south by a line a few rods north of Winthrop and Vine Streets. His son Jonathan had the remainder, lying south of this line, and afterwards came into possession of this mill, as is evidenced by the following sale, dated Jan. 8, 1721:

"Jonathan Howard conveys to Samuel Howard, wheelwright, one acre of land lying near the dwelling house of said Samuel Howard, with the grist or cornmill that stands on the land with the mill dam and all the privilege belonging to the mill."

It would seem that this mill, after a service of fifty years, exhausted the timber in its vicinity and was converted into a gristmill. [In ancient times a tannery existed there.]

[L. S. G.]

Mary Howard, wife of Jonathan, came into possession of eight acres of land with the buildings thereon, on the east side of Ell Pond. The house here referred to is the one which, until the latter part of 1900, stood on the corner of Porter and Lebanon Streets. This was a very old house. The curb of the old well still stands, but the sweep has disappeared. Benjamin Howard sold one-half of it to Joseph Lynde, in 1762, mentioning in the deed that he purchased it of his father in 1740. This estate passed into the hands of Jonathan Howard, who sold to Amos Howard in 1786; and he sold to the late Nathaniel Howard, so long the principal undertaker of Melrose. He was born in this house, with a large family of brothers and sisters. One of them, Atalanta Howard, married Isaac Emerson, who built his homestead, wherein he passed a long life, where now stands the handsome parsonage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on Main Street. Another, James, built the house on the corner of Pleasant and Sumner Streets, Malden.

Nathaniel Howard, son of Jonathan, built a house at an early period in the rear of the present Eatsman's Block, on Main Street, about fifteen rods east of said street, near the Ell Pond brook. By his will, dated in 1763, he gives his real estate and buildings to his sons, Amos and Ezra. This estate consisted of about forty acres of land, lying on both

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sides of Main Street, which was not then in existence, embracing the old village cemetery lot on the north, on which now stands our High School Building, bounded east on Ell Pond Brook, south to a line within about ten rods of Foster Street, including the Baptist Church and Sewall School House lots, west on line just in the rear of the Main Street stores, crossing Essex Street on the line of the City Hall lot, crossing Dix's Pond and Winthrop Street to a line parallel with the north line of the cemetery lot. Ezra Howard became sole owner of this estate by purchase from his brother Amos. Ezra Howard died and the estate, in 1808, passed into the possession of Ezra Tainter and William Dix, who married two of Ezra Howard's daughters. Dix's residence was on the corner of Main and Essex Streets, where now stands our City Hall. Tainter owned the old house, which was in a dilapidated condition, and was demolished about the time Main Street was laid out in 1806; and the material was used in the building of the old Tainter house, later removed to Faulkner Place, where it now stands.

The Charles Pratt farm, of forty-six acres, on Lebanon Street, now belonging to the City of Melrose, having been purchased in 1887, for the purpose of enlarging the Wyoming Cemetery, was originally owned by Jonathan Howard, who built a house thereon. Reference is made to this by the Selectmen of Malden, when running bounds in 1690, as follows:

"Beginning at the fender post of Joseph Lynde orchard so along to Jonathan Howards land next to the common land."

When bought by John Pratt, father of Charles, in 1778, according to a memorandum found among Mr. Barrett's papers, the house

was two story with a leaky kitchen on the back of the west end and occupied by 2 old Maids Ruth & Sarah Wait. The old Maids were to have the East End of the house during their life time. . . . After the death of the old maids John Pratt tore down the old house and built the house where Charles Pratt lived in 1806.

Charles Pratt lived in the old homestead a year and a half after selling his farm to the town of Melrose, for \$10,000, that consideration being a part of the price. He died Sept. 2, 1888, at the age of eighty-six years. At a town meeting held March 14, 1898, it was voted to utilize the mansion house and twelve acres of this property as a poor farm, until such time as the territory shall be needed for cemetery purposes.

Where now stands the Masonic Building, on the corner of Main Street and Wyoming Avenue, once stood another homestead of the Howards, that of Joseph, the second son of Jonathan Howard, who died in 1769. This descended to his heirs, and afterward passed into the possession of Joseph Boardman; and when the Masonic Building was erected, the old house was removed to Dell Avenue, and occupied as a dwelling until within a few years, when it was demolished.

JOHN VINTON of Lynn, was the ancestor of all the Vintons of America. The first of the Vintons that settled on Melrose territory, were the brothers Thomas and Benoni, of the fourth generation, about the year 1742. They married sisters, Hannah and Mary Green. Thomas bought his farm in 1758, situated on what is now Vinton and Franklin Streets. The old county road from Stoneham to Lynn, ran through our territory on or near our present Franklin Street; a short portion of it being now covered by Day Street. 

As we have seen in the sketch of the Barrett family, Thomas' brother Benoni, came into possession of the Mountain House farm, to the south of Maple Street. This was also in 1758.

This house was on what is now Ashland Street, but has been turned around and altered somewhat.

Benoni Vinton's son, Lieut. John, was a man of note, and filled a number of prominent positions in Malden.

Lieut. Vinton was a member of the Committee of Correspondence for Malden, for the

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years 1779 and 1780, serving with Lieut. Bernard Green, John Green, William Dexter, Samuel Sprague, Jonathan Sprague and others. He was also Tax Collector for Malden's assessment by the State.

Benoni Vinton died in 1760, and his brother Thomas in 1763. Thomas left three sons, Thomas, Timothy and Ezra. To Timothy he gave the homestead. He never married, but lived with his mother, until she died in 1804. He lived to be ninety-two years of age, and died in 1836, an abject miser. Turning his farm productions into money, he would hide it in all sorts of out-of-the-way places; burying some of it in the ground, a part of which was undoubtedly lost; five hundred Spanish dollars, old and tarnished, found in his house, were divided among his relatives immediately after his funeral.

For Thomas was built, in 1770, the house formerly standing near the corner of Tremont and Franklin Streets, since removed to the corner of Tremont Street and Ellsworth Avenue. This farm descended to his son Thomas, who died in 1841, aged 70, of whom it is said he never left his farm for forty years, and never visited Boston, although living so near it. He left a very singular will, bequeathing his property in a curious manner to the Baptist Church of Malden. In 1846, the Baptist Church sold it to Winthrop Richardson. This was soon after the Boston and Maine Railroad was opened. At this time there were but four houses in what is now the Highlands, west of Main Street — three occupied by Vintons and one by the Greens. This old homestead farm was held by Mr. Richardson for farming purposes until 1853, when it was surveyed, and laid out in streets and house lots, and people from Boston began to make investments and build homes thereon.

What property had not been disposed of by Mr. Richardson, before his accidental death on the railroad in 1853, was inherited by his daughter, Mrs. Caroline M. Wood.

In 1777, Ezra Vinton bought the Deacon Joseph Green farm and homestead, situated westerly from the original Thomas Vinton farm, the house being on Vinton Street, near the corner of Franklin Street. Our present Vinton Street was then merely a cartway which led from Stoneham to Malden. About 1790 this house was burned, and Ezra then built on the same spot the house now standing. This is one of those large-timbered, strongly-built, huge-chimneyed, with oven attachment, old-fashioned houses of the early settlers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries; devoid of ornamentation, but commodious and comfortable. It is not quite so strongly built, in the way of timbers, as those of the earlier settlers. It has had some alterations and additions in the rear, and the top of the chimney has been made smaller.

At the death of Ezra in 1817, the estate was inherited by his son Joseph Vinton, who owned it until 1845, when it was sold to Horatio Nelson Perkins, who lived many years on the corner of Vinton and Franklin Streets. He sold the Vinton homestead to Israel Richardson of Portland.

A grandson of Ezra, Aaron Vinton, born in 1826, lived on Howard Street, where he carried on the farming industry for many years. He died July 1, 1901.

The southern part of the Ezra Vinton farm, the woodlands, was sold by Mr. Perkins. On this land, some way south of Orris Street, formerly Green Lane, on the high ground, is an old cellar-hole where once stood the Wilson house. Six or seven large elm trees are now growing within its walls. Mr. Wilson was a shoemaker and school-teacher; and carried on both branches of his business in that house, and at the same time.

As we have seen in the history of the Green family, for more than a century they owned nearly all the territory now comprised in the Melrose Highlands, and a large part of Greenwood. After the advent of the Vintons, and their marriage into the Green families, this Highlands territory, to a very large extent, became the property of the Vintons. These three brothers, Thomas, Timothy and Ezra Vinton, lived side by side, on the then existing county road, (discontinued when Franklin Street was built).

*THE GOULD'S. While the Gould family of Stoneham is not essentially connected with the earliest history of Mystic Side and Malden through continued residence therein, yet the proximity of their habitations on the northern shore of Spot Pond in Stoneham and

* Written by Levi S. Gould.



THE GOULD FAMILY HOMESTEAD, SPOT POND 1699 OR BEFORE
From sketch made by Hannah Lynde in 1844

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Smiths Pond in Wakefield where they resided for nearly six generations; intermarriage with the Greens, Lyndes, Uphams, Spragues, Converse, Vintons etc. and its standing in the affairs of Charlestown End and Stoneham for 250 years of which Melrose Highlands was formerly a part, added to its prominence here for nearly three quarters of a century entitles it to a place among the earliest families of Ancient Melrose.

The Homestead of the Gould family, Spot Pond, built before 1700, remained in the family until the present generation when its site was taken by the Commonwealth for park purposes. From this house Jacob Gould and his two sons responded to the "Lexington Alarm" April 19, 1775. Family tradition has it that one of the boys rode, without saddle or bridle, a favorite white mare into the trenches at Bunker Hill. Before the firing commenced he turned the faithful beast loose and she found her way back to the farm in safety. It is also said that on that day he wore an old fashioned shaggy beaver hat of which he was very proud. After the firing was over it was lost in the excitement of the retreat. Being railed by his companions, he returned over the ground, found the hat and bore it home in triumph but riddled with bullets. It was destroyed accidentally some years ago. John Gould, 1610-, 1691, founder of the family came from England in 1635, and was the first settler of Charlestown End now Stoneham. He was an all round Indian fighter and a trooper in King Philips War. His descendants have been represented in every war of their period and many have arrived at high attainments in civil life. By inter-marriage his blood has mingled with the Lynde's, Spragues, Uphams, Greens, Vintons and others of the earliest settlers of Malden and "Ancient Melrose".

In 1843 the Timothy Vinton homestead heretofore mentioned on page 56 passed into the possession of Dr. Levi Gould the first settled physician in the territory now known as Melrose but at that time the East School District of Stoneham afterwards incorporated in the former town. Dr. Gould was a native of Stoneham and a lineal descendant from the John Gould (above mentioned) who came to Charlestown in 1635 and later on was awarded a large tract of common land at "Charlestown End," where he settled, thus becoming the first white man in that section of the wilderness now known as Stoneham of which Melrose Highlands formed a portion. The very earliest families in the settlement of the mother towns of Charlestown and "Mystic Side," later Malden, appear to be no more than eight and in relation to the present territory of Melrose should be classed as follows viz.:

The Sprague's as of Charlestown in 1634 of "Mystic Side" about 1638.

" Lynde's	"	"	"	"	1634	"	"	"	"	1645.
" Barrett's	"	"	"	"	1635	"	"	"	"	1643.
" Howards'	"	"	"	"	1635	"	Malden	"	"	1663.
" Upham's	"	"	Weymouth	"	1635	"	"Mystic Side"	"	"	1648.
" Green's	"	"	Virginia	"	1635	"	Malden	"	"	1651.
" Gould's	"	"	Charlestown	"	1635	"	{ "Charlestown End"	"	"	now a part of Melrose } about 1658.
" Vinton's	"	"	Lynn	"	1640	"	{ Malden temporarily	"	"	1677.
							"	permanently	"	1742.

The Vinton's are believed to have descended from a family of Huguenots which fled to England in 1572 to escape the massacre of St. Bartholomew. All the others were English Puritans. [L.S.G.]

Besides these families already spoken of, there were others, some of whose names have been mentioned, who became residents of this territory at quite an early date; among them, Herring, Breedon, Wilkinson, Grover, and Dunnell; but most of them have disappeared, and no longer have representatives among our citizens. Nearly all of these lived in the southeasterly part of the Town, in the Long Pond district. At a later date, some before, some after, and some about the time of the Revolutionary War, came the Pratts, the Emersons, Edmunds, Larrabees, Boardmans, Hemenways, Tainters, Fullers,

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Coxes, Waites, Eatons and a few others; and the descendants of most of these families are still citizens of Melrose. Of some of them much might be said concerning their identification with the interests of the Town, while it was a part of Malden, and since its incorporation. Some served in the early wars; some in the Revolution; some held civic office; some were manufacturers; and some were peaceful farmers.

One of the earliest settlers in Malden was Capt. John Wayte (Waite) who married Mary, daughter of Joseph Hills. From him have descended the many citizens bearing that honored name.

The Ezra Waite house is situated on Swain's Pond Avenue, in the southeastern part of Melrose. No one knows just when it was built, but it is undoubtedly two centuries old. It has brick-lined walls, and the usual wooden cross-beams in the ceiling, found in all the oldest houses, (see page 18). On the opposite side of the road may be seen the remnants of an old mill-dam; this makes it evident that there were once two sawmills on the outlet of Swain's Pond, one of which, Grover's, has been before referred to.

WILLIAM EMERSON although born in Reading, and living some years in Woburn, early came to North Malden. He married Mary Vinton, a sister of the three brothers, Thomas, Timothy and Ezra Vinton, heretofore spoken of. Mr. Emerson was in the Revolution, enlisting at the early age of eighteen; and the relation of his war experiences to his children and grandchildren, afforded much entertainment. His first homestead "stood near the old well with a narrow cartway between the house and well," says one of his sons, the Rev. Warren Emerson, writing June 23, 1876:

"The house was afterwards sold to Amos P. Lynde, and converted into a barn. In the above house my father kept a Public House for a number of years. The family moved into the new house on the corner of Main and Emerson Streets, either the 6th or 7th of November, 1805; as you may find marked with chalk on a rafter in the garret in the east end of the house unless it has been rubbed out by some one. I think marked by myself."

In this old inn all of Mr. Emerson's children were born, excepting William, son of his first wife, who early went to Bangor, Maine, and Isaac, the oldest son by his second wife, who was born in Woburn. Another sister of these Vintons, Martha, married John Pratt, father of the late Charles Pratt, whose farm was on our present Lebanon Street, and which now forms part of the Wyoming Cemetery.

Francis Hemenway, whose farm was on the easterly side of East Street, corner of Porter, was born in Stoneham in 1797, but came to Melrose when he was a year old. In 1815, there occurred an Indian mock fight, in which Mr. Hemenway took part. Some six hundred Malden and Reading men, arrayed in war-paint and feathers, tomahawks and scalping knives, were pitted against several military companies from Charlestown and other towns. The battle began on Reading Hill, north of Green Street, and ended at Joseph Boardman's, whose house stood where Masonic Hall now stands. After a hard and desperate struggle the red men were defeated. Mr. Hemenway represented an Indian squaw, and carried on his back for a papoose, the late Charles Porter, then a baby two years old. During Lafayette's visit in 1825, Mr. Hemenway joined the military company at Malden centre, marched to Bunker Hill, to take part in the laying of the corner-stone of the monument, heard Daniel Webster's great oration, and shook hands with our friend and ally, the great Frenchman. The old homestead, with its well and well-sweep, has disappeared but the house still exists, having been moved to the upper end of Porter Street.

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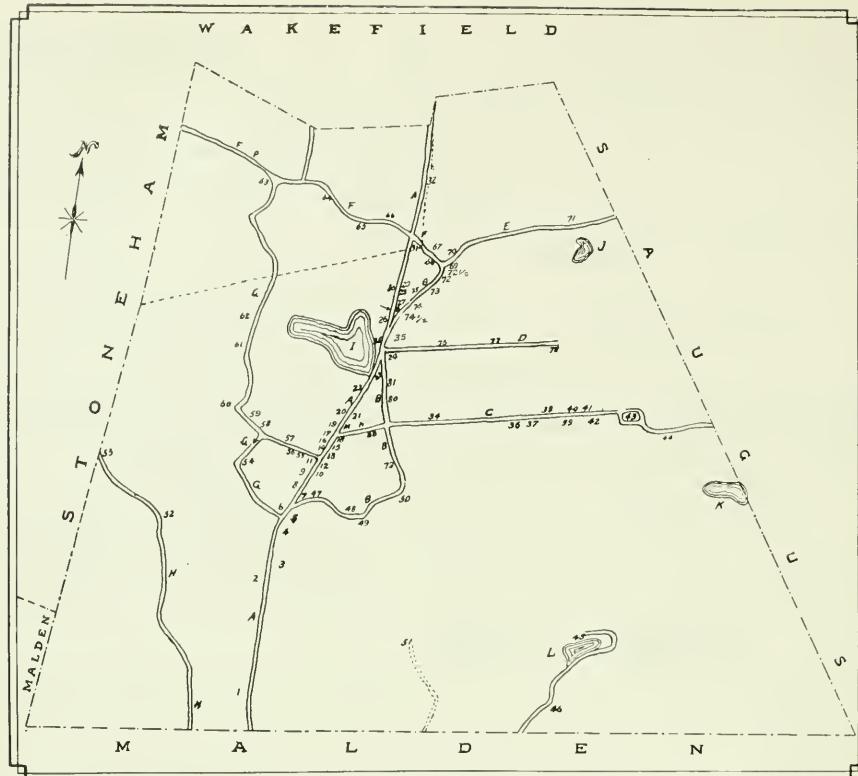
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Melrose



Map of North Malden and part of Stoneham in 1843, containing every residence and public building with names of occupants. Drawn by Hon. Levi S. Gould

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KEY TO THE GOULD MAP OF 1843

Drawn from memory by Levi S. Gould, who as a boy of nine came to North Malden in 1843 and has resided here ever since.

1	Joseph Lynde, 1670	31	New House built by A. P. Lynde	56	Jona Kimball
2	Warren Lynde, 1820	32	Jonas Brown, about 1750	57	Pelatiah R. Waitt
3	George W. Grover			58	William Harlow 1828
4	Daniel Lynde			59	Washington Barrett, 1757
5	Joseph Boardman	33	Edmund Davis		
6	James G. Emerson and Charles "Barley" Howard, about 1750	34	Eli and Albert Upham, 1816	60	Mrs. Jona Barrett 1758
7	Francis D. Howe	35	Ephraim Fuller	61	John Larrabee 1805
8	George "Tit" Lynde	36	Asa Upham, (ancient Upham House)	62	Wm. J. Farnsworth 1839
9	John "Toddstick" Lynde	37	Eri Upham	63	Joseph Vinton 1790
10	Elbridge Green	38	Joshua Upham	64	The Thos. Vinton house
11	Nathaniel Howard	39	Jesse Upham (about 1703 see page 50)	65	Dr. Levi Gould 1758
12	James L. Green	40	New House built by Jesse Upham	66	John "Sopus" Green 1800
13	Jona Kimball			67	John Stratton
14	Ezra Tainter	41	John Wilde	68	Aaron Green
15	James Howard	42	George Upham 1775	69	Samuel Howard
16	Benjamin Boardman	43	Nathan Derby 1810	70	Deacon Samuel Howard about 1750
17	Polly Manning	44	John Edmunds 1730	71	David Blakely
18	Wm. J. Farnsworth	45	John Grover's heirs about 1713	72	Joseph Green, about 1750
19	William Dix about 1800			73	John Simonds
20	Josiah H. Barker	46	Henry J. Ireson about 1700	74	William Newhall
21	Isaac Emerson			75	Henry B. Wells
22	Widow of Wm. Emerson, 1805	47	Rev. John McLeish	76	Marmaduke Hay, about 1750
23	Phineas Sprague, 1812	48	Sally Upham about 1700	77	Charles Cummings, about 1780
24	Nathaniel Howard, 2d, 1663	49	Dolly Upham, 1812	78	Francis Hemenway, about 1800
25	William E. Fuller	50	William Lynde about 1750	79	Isaac Cowdry
26	George Emerson (house and store)	51	Charles Pratt 1806	80	George "Turkey" Lynde
27	Shubael L. Taylor	52	Jonathan Lynde 1700	81	Amos P. Lynde
28	Freeman Upham	53	Jabez Lynde 1700	72 ^{1/2}	Isaac Vinton about 1770
29	Samuel D. Taylor	54	John Peabody about 1800	74 ^{1/2}	George E. Fuller about 1770
30	Samuel S. Upham, about 1800	55	Wm. A. Richardson	82	Augustus Vinton

A	Road to Reading as relocated in 1806	J.	Nimans Pond (not now in existence) 1795
B.	Parts of old road to Reading in 1653	K.	Long Pond, 1700
C.	Upham's Lane, a Range Way in 1695	L.	Swains Pond 1695
D.	Hemenways' Lane, a Range Way in 1695	M.	First Methodist Protestant Church 1842
E.	Saugus Road, the Saugus portion existed as early as 1635	N.	School House (burned in 1845) 1829
F.	Stoneham Road 1789	O.	First Methodist Episcopal Church 1818
G.	Stoneham Road from Malden, 1790	P.	Little Red School House 3rd School District of Stoneham 1836
H.	Spot Pond Road from Malden, 1695		
I.	Ell Pond, 1638		

A FEW SCRAPS OF LOCAL HISTORY

BY LEVI S. GOULD

First mention of what is now Melrose was in the "Book of possessions of the inhabitants of Charlestown" wherein was recorded the possessions of Ralph Sprague being "nintie acres more or lesse situate and lying in Pond feilde". This was in 1638. "Pond feilde" was adjacent to Ell Pond so called from the earliest history.

Amos P. Lynde, father of A. Wilbur Lynde, was a carpenter in the "Forties" and built several houses, all of one style, for which his invariable price was \$500. One of them was moved from Green St. to corner of Avon and Elm St., and it is still standing. The finest house here in early days was the "Liberty Bigelow" house built by Wm. Foster in 1828. He resided there and Foster Street was then called Foster's road from his house to that of Pelatiah R. Wait afterwards the Wm. Bogle house. This was the second finest house in North Malden; and at that time there was no through road to Main Street, nothing but a cart path having bars to take down. Most of the land north of the Masonic Temple and bounded by Cottage Street, on the west, Myrtle Street, on the East and almost as far north as the Melrose Station was known as the "plain" covered with scrub pines and birches, and in the early "Forties" could be bought for about \$20,00 an acre. It was mostly owned by Joseph Boardman who held extensive tracts here as well as marshes in North Chelsea where he frequently hunted reed birds. On one occasion, returning from a visit there, while taking his gun from the bottom of the wagon, it was prematurely discharged, from the effects of which he died. He was very prominent here. He owned where the Masonic Temple now stands a house acquired from the Howard's. Attached to the property was a slaughter house where now stands the westerly half of the Masonic property.

In 1843, the only general store was that kept by George Emerson on Main Street, corner of Green Street. This section was the "Court end" of the town, and gathered around the big stove might be found the bone and sinew of the section on every week day evening, discussing polities and local affairs until the clock struck nine, when all would rise and retire. George Emerson was an ardent Methodist and the pillar of the Church opposite his store, but they do say there was a time when he dispensed New England rum as freely as he did his dry goods and groceries, but that was many moons away. He built the unsightly ice-houses which still remain as a standing blemish to the charming sheet of water in the midst of our lovely city. From these buildings, and as a store-keeper and shoe manufacturer, he amassed a moderate fortune and was considered as the leading citizen of the North End. Contrasted with Mr. Emerson was George W. Grover of Wyoming, who descended from an ancient Malden family of Revolutionary fame owning a mill at Swain's pond. Neither George W., or his wife, also born here, could either read or write and he brought up his family in equal ignorance until the law compelled him to attend to their education. He used to beat a drum, and at town-meeting time, the voters of the North End assembled under his leadership and marched to Malden to the inspiration of his "rub-a-dub-dub" for a day at the polls. On one occasion they came within one vote of electing Elbridge Green to the Legislature, and often elected a Selectman of their choice.

Capt. Unite Cox (of the Revolution) cut from his farm, between Otis and Perkins Streets, the sturdy oak which formed the keel of the old "Constitution" and with great yokes of oxen hauled it to the ship-yard in Boston.

The first settler was undoubtedly Ensign Thomas Lynde about 1640, and the house he built in 1670 is the oldest one now standing, and one of the best preserved in America of its age.

Phineas Upham came about 1703 and the house first built by him is believed to be standing on Waverly Avenue in an entirely reconstructed condition. While being renovated and repaired it was struck by lightning and a paper hanger killed. After that, with every pane of glass broken and a prey for owls and bats, it remained and was shunned as "the haunted house" until purchased by Mrs. Stantial some 20 years ago who has resided

there ever since and stoutly avers that she has never seen even the Ghost of the original Phineas.

The house recently purchased by the Melrose Historical Society and now called the "Phineas Upham house" is an ancient structure, and may have been built by him for his son Amos, as, until quite recently it has been known as the "Amos" Upham House.

In 1843 a stage ran from Reading to Boston three times a week, which was the only public conveyance. In that year and for many years thereafter, no daily papers were taken here. If anything occurred of great public interest a man loaded up a wagon with newspapers and drove from Boston through suburban towns blowing a fish horn to attract attention. At that time there were about eighty-five houses in North Malden, with a total population of three to four hundred engaged in farming and shoemaking.

The first ice sent to hot countries was cut from the waters flowing from Long Pond by Frederick Tudor. It is said to have been sold as high as twenty-five cents a pound.

Cottage Street was first called Boardman Street, from Joseph Boardman.

Foster Street West was called Foster's Road from William Foster.

William Bogle was not a resident here in 1843, but Rev. John McLeish was. After Bogle came in 1847, both he and Rev. John McLeish were in partnership in a land deal taking in several acres south of Wyoming Avenue opposite the Masonic Temple. Bogle was a wigmaker and made a fortune in a hair wash which he called "Hyperion Fluid". The Boston Directory claims him as a resident there for several years previous to 1847 and the Malden records do not mention him until the latter date so that the story of his traveling by the old stage coach from North Malden to Boston previous to that time except perhaps for an occasional visit is probably pure fiction.

In 1843 there was but one doctor here, Levi Gould, and he was the only Orthodox. It is doubtful if there was more than one Catholic, Nathan Derby, while Baptists were as scarce as "hen's teeth". The balance of the people were mainly Methodists, of which there were two societies, the Episcopal and the Protestant, and they were quarreling most of the time, until the Baptists finally captured the latter society and its Church in 1856.

Peat was largely used as fuel and almost every farmer had a bog from which it was cut in the summer.

William J. Farnsworth for many years a propersous dealer in real estate, as well as a public official, was not a resident in 1843, although he owned property here at that time, (thirty-three acres in 1839 located between Otis and Perkins Streets) and as late as 1844, he was a "hair cutter" in Charlestown. His first residence was corner Perkins and Vinton streets.

An Englishman named Atkinson had a rope-walk on what is now Russell Street, just off of Trenton Street. He was here in the early "Forties." Samuel D. Taylor built a curriers shop in the rear of the Methodist Church, at the junction of Main and Green Streets.

John Wilde, an Englishman, had a shop, seventy-five years ago, in the rear of his house on Upham's lane where he made fine cutlery by his own work.

In 1843 there were but nine streets, or rather roads in the North End known and supported as public ways, and one of them, Foster's road, was not a town way throughout its entire length.

Cotton Sprague, a descendant of Ralph Sprague one of the first white men to own property in "Pond Fields," was a most prominent man in North Malden. He was a member of the Legislature in 1823, '24, '25 and '26.—It is related of him that he was so liberal in entertaining the members of various sessions of the "Great and General Court" that he was obliged to mortgage his ancestral domains to pay the bills—Being unable to discharge the obligation they passed from the family control forever—He lived on the Liberty Bigelow property—He was buried in a tomb which formerly stood on the line of Main Street at entrance of the High School Building.

The first train over the Boston and Maine Railroad extension left Boston for Malden July

4th, 1845. A train due to pass the "North End from the East on July 1st did not get through and a great throng waiting to see it all day were disappointed—It was a single track road with wood burning locomotives which had to "wood and water" about every ten miles. Wyoming had no station until the citizens built one by subscription. It was called "Boardman's Crossing" and if you wished to board a train there you had to stand on the track and wave a white handkerchief! The writer has been a commuter from that station continuously for 63 years and in the "forties" often waved the "white flag" for a single trip—The centre station had the only depot building and during the first 7 years Washington Barrett, father of our respected citizens Jonathan and David A. Barrett, was the station agent—This building is still in use as a freight house—In 1848 the first sessions of the Melrose Orthodox Sunday School, of which the writer is perhaps the only living representative, was gathered there—On "Independence Day" every inhabitant who could, visited Boston to see the military display and fire-works, and the R. R. ran special trains of open freight cars to accommodate the public, not having near enough passenger cars—Sometimes they got caught in rain storms and then their condition can be better imagined than described.

THE OLD BOARDMAN HOUSE

Although this house does not actually stand on Melrose territory, it is so near it, being just over the line in Saugus, its age, its history, and the lives of some of its former occupants, are so closely connected with our city, that it is appropriate to give a short sketch of its history.

It is known, far and wide, as the Abijah Boardman House, and is situated on Howard Street. It is one of the oldest, if not the oldest house now standing on New England soil. It was built in 1635-6, by Samuel Bennett, who came to Saugus in the first of these years. He came over from England, at his own cost, in consequence of which he received a grant of fifty acres of land, locating it on this spot.

With the shrewdness which was characteristic among the first settlers, he selected for the site a moderate elevation just west of a running rivulet which came down from Castle Hill to water his "horned cattle," and to meet at the declivity south of the house another little stream that kept green and fertile his meadows.

The house is the best preserved specimen of the projecting upper story architecture to be found. It has the old fashioned huge chimney, fireplaces, and ovens, of the early colonial period; large beams cross its ceilings; hand-made, wrought iron nails were used; its cellar stairs are made of hewn logs instead of boards; and the walls were bricked between the upright timbers from top to bottom, thus making it warm and impervious to the storms of winter; and the old house is still strong and able to defy the tempests of yet other centuries. The projecting upper story, in this case eighteen inches wide, so often thought to be so built for a means of defence, simply followed familiar architectural designs for dwellings extant in the early part of the seventeenth century. The openings, through which to shoot, or pour hot water upon the heads of attacking Indians, exist only in imagination.

THE MELROSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For several years many of our citizens have realized that the last of the children of the earlier settlers of North Malden, now Melrose, were attaining an age when they would soon leave us, and in most cases their homes, with the furniture, pictures, furnishings, etc., which they had inherited would naturally be distributed to descendants who are living away from Melrose. It was also learned that in some instances these persons would esteem it a privilege to leave many of these articles permanently in our city if some suitable place could be provided for them and some legal organization found to whom could be entrusted these remembrances of their ancestors. It was also discovered that there was located on Upham Street, nearly opposite Stratford Road, a farmhouse in an excellent state of preservation, which in location, design, and construction was a purely colonial building, of which there are very few left standing.

With these facts in mind, Mrs. Henry E. Johnson inaugurated a movement in 1912, the outcome of which has been that The Melrose Historical Society was formed in 1913, and incorporated in 1914, the Phineas Upham House purchased, and definite steps taken to preserve within its walls many colonial articles. In order to make it easy for every one to share in this most commendable enterprise, the annual membership fee has been made only \$1.00, with life emembership at \$10.00, and honorary membership at \$100.00.

The Society has already secured four honorary members, twelve life members, and over three hundred annual members, and every one, old and young, is invited to become a member.

The house is located on southerly side of Upham Street just above Stratford Road, and the Society secured both the house and 31,800 feet of land for only \$1,916, as the Upham heirs were desirous of helping the Society to the utmost. The Society has also bonded the tract of land and house directly to the west of the farmhouse and has the privilege of becoming owner of that property by paying only \$2,000 for the house and five cents a foot for the land any time during the next two years. It is thought by many of our citizens that it is very essential that this property should eventually be owned by the Society in order to secure proper surroundings for the Ancient Upham farmhouse. It is also apparent that if the Society should decide to take this property the house can be rented for a sufficient sum to more than pay the cost of interest, taxation, etc., and that the tenant could also be made a general caretaker of the entire property and arrangements be made so that simple meals could be furnished in the old farmhouse to visitors and organizations who might desire to hold their regular meetings in this unique building.

The "Upham" families and the "Old State House" and "Faneuil Hall" Chapters D. A. R. have agreed to completely fit up and furnish three of the larger rooms.

The officers and committees are giving the most careful consideration to the whole plan and will gladly welcome suggestions from interested persons. They will appreciate receiving information as to the whereabouts of any furniture, woven carpets, rugs, pictures, dishes, ornaments, etc., which are associated with the early life of our city. Every article accepted by the Society will be carefully preserved and so marked that a perfect record will be preserved of its history, its donors, etc.

Attention is called to the fact that "The Melrose Historical Society" is the legal title of this organization and that gifts of money, furnishings, etc., can be left to it by will. Arrangements have been perfected whereby any one desiring to give the Society money while living can be assured of an annuity from their gift as long as they live.

It is expected that eventually arrangements can be made whereby the house and grounds can be made self-supporting and the income secured from memberships used for advancing other historical interests, the "object" of Society, as expressed in its charter, being: "To arouse interest in the study of the history of the city of Melrose; to secure the preservation of its oldest buildings; to collect by gift, loan or purchase, colonial books, pictures, furniture,

dishes, etc.; to provide suitable rooms for their preservation; and the publication from time to time of such information relating to Melrose families, organizations, events, etc., as shall be deemed expedient."

The officers and Executive Committee not only invite but urge that every one interested in preserving mementoes of colonial days join the Society and by their annual dues of only \$1.00 help make its work effective and also become entitled to visit the "Phineas Upham" house, grounds, and inspect the many interesting articles preserved there.

The following are the officers of the Society for year 1915.

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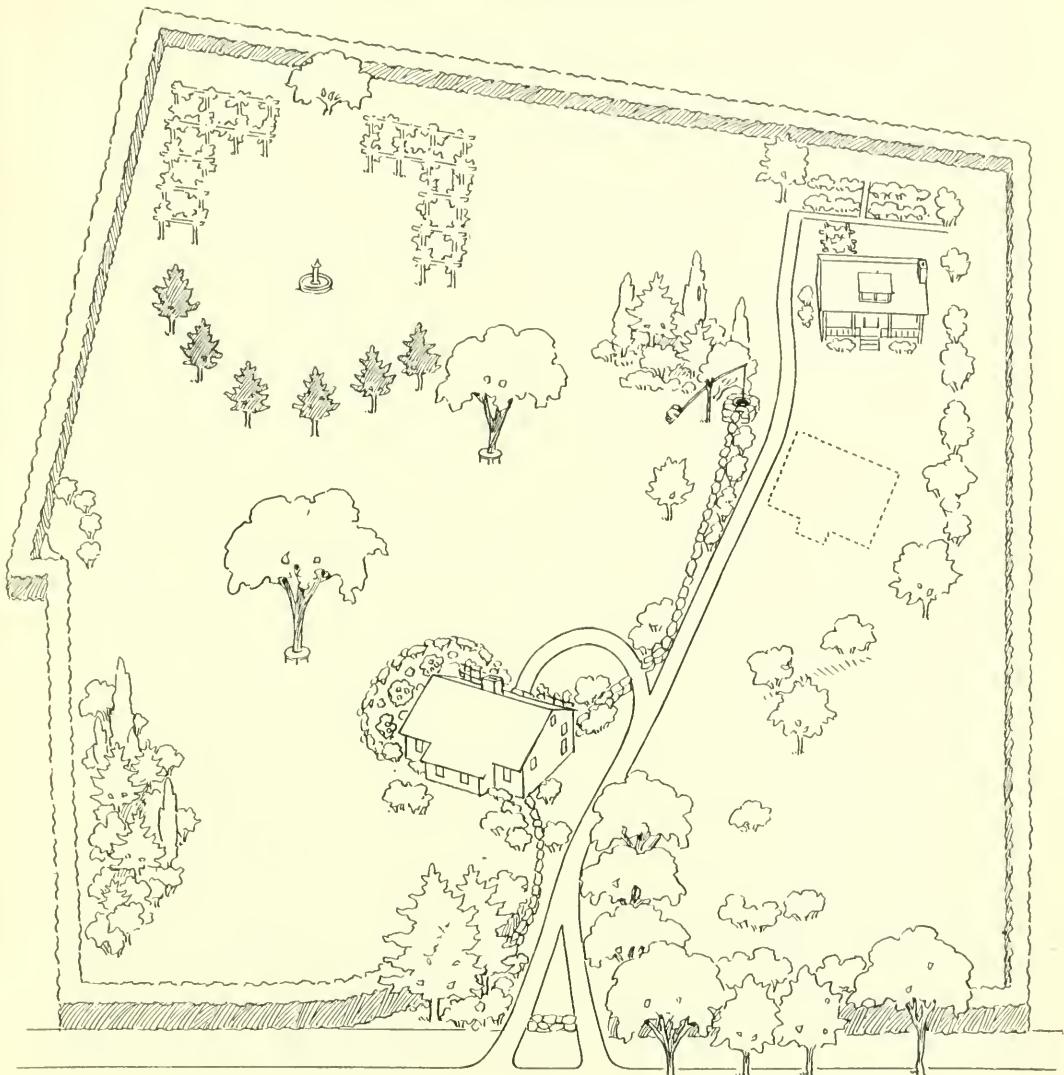
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PLAN FOR RESTORING AND IMPROVING THE
UPHAM HOUSE GROUNDS



The Melrose Historical Society hope to be in position shortly to complete the purchase of the entire tract of land as shown on the above plan, and in order to give a proper setting for the whole property Mr. H. P. Kelsey, of Salem, the well-known landscape gardener of many of colonial gardens and grounds in Massachusetts, has prepared plans which when fully developed will make the property one of the most attractive beauty spots in Eastern Massachusetts. Mr. Kelsey discovered that there were a large number of lilac bushes on the premises and there has been planted a three-foot purple and white lilac hedge along the front and side lines of the two properties and it is proposed later on to have the entire grounds enclosed by this lilac hedge about three feet wide and from four to five feet high. It has also been provided that a grape vine covered pergola be erected in back portion of grounds, old-fashioned flowers, vines, and shrubs are being placed about the house, trees and grounds, and it is intended to restore the old well and provide it with well-sweep, etc.

THE PHINEAS UPHAM HOUSE

It has already been stated on page 42 that John Upham came to the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1635. He first settled at Weymouth, and in 1648 removed to Malden. His great-grandson Phineas,—the third to bear that name,—great-great-grandfather of Ralph Waldo Emerson, the poet-philosopher, and great-great-great-grandfather of W. Cameron Forbes, former governor-general of the Philippine islands—received a grant of land in North Malden, now Melrose about 1700.

In 1703 Phineas Upham was married in Malden by the Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, and soon after came with his wife, Tamzen (Thomasin) Hill, to North Malden. We have no proofs that this old house was built in 1703, but the statement has been handed down as a family tradition only, that Phineas came to this house, then new, “on horseback, with his bride, Tamzen riding behind him on a pillion”.

The son and the grandson of Phineas, were both named Amos, and the house was therefore in the possession of an Amos Upham by descent for two generations. This probably accounts for its being known as the “Amos Upham House,” (See notes on page 50 L. S. G.)

Asa Upham, son of the second Amos, was the last Upham to spend his life in the Old House. On August 20, 1869, he died there, as also did his widow, three years later. For the greater part of the next sixteen years, (1872-1888), the house was unoccupied, and rapidly falling to decay. A part of the roof fell in, most of the windows were broken, and one entirely disappeared. At last the daughters of Orne Upham, who were then owners of the old place, decided to repair the house so that it might again be habitable. Roof and walls were made whole, panes of glass were reset, one walled in fire-place was opened, and gradually, room by room, the walls were cleaned and papered, and the wood-work repainted. When the many layers of paper were scraped from the walls of the “Best Room” there was revealed beneath, an unsuspected dado. After these repairs were accomplished, the old house was partly furnished and used by the family of Orne Upham. After his death, his widow and daughters lived there for many summers, and in 1903 his eldest daughter was married in the large south-east room, known in earlier days, as the “best room” of the house. Since the summer of 1907 the house has been vacant, and at the time of its purchase by the Melrose Historical Society in 1913 was in a fairly primitive condition, most of the modernizing having taken place more than one hundred years ago.

ITS RESTORATION by Mrs. Hattie Elliott Johnson. The Society commenced its restoration by shingling the roof and making temporary repairs in the house, and in June, 1914, a consulting architect, expert masons and carpenters were put to work. Under their direction new sills replaced the unsound old oak ones portions of which however were sound as ever. Under the small north-west lean-to room the sills were of pine, having been put in when this room was added to the main house. Clapboards were next removed but none of original type were discovered, but on the west side of the house, three layers of clapboards and shingles with strips of furring between were uncovered, why, were a mystery. Underneath all these clapboards was the first outside boarding of the house, many of the boards being from one-half to three quarters of a yard wide, all were chamfered and splayed and put on with hand made nails and but few new boards replaced these old ones, which were in excellent state of preservation. The new clapboards used were of soft pine, and splayed and were laid as originally placed in narrow courses at the sills, increasing in width towards the roof.

New plates and girts were put in on the east, north, and south walls of the east end of the house. The studding was either replaced, spliced, or laid up beside the old, and the brick lining to these walls was replaced. The summer beams were solid wherever uncovered. The modern windows and frames were removed and windows of the first period

square paned wooden muntin double casement put in their place, and windows of the second period were put into the lean-to. New outside doors of the batten type, a little over five feet were made after one found in the house, and set into lowered door frames, which have been moved over into their original positions. The width of the beams vary, many being thirteen inches square. Floors are of white pine being those first laid, some are single, some are double.

The modern woodwork which is left is to be torn out, is of no consequence and the Society will select such doors, mantels, and hardware as will be of interest for its museum.

Fine sheathing is found in the upper west chamber, which has a mantel set into it, in such a way as to be a part of the sheathing itself, and must be nearly as old; sheathing of the same type is also found in the lower back hall entry, and also on one side of the lean-to kitchen wall, here it runs horizontally, the boards being three quarters of a yard wide.

A wooden dado consisting of two wide boards from floor to casement window is in the east and west parlors, above the east parlor dado the walls are plastered against hand-made lathes, behind which, on the south and east sides, between the outer and inner wall is an open space the only one in the house not brick filled, and while once it naturally would have been built up there is no evidence in the tearing out to show otherwise and it was therefore left as found.

On the opposite side of the house, the west parlor, is a "furred in" room, this false partition is on the north, south and west sides and is to be torn out; the space behind this wall being about five inches, a large hole being made in the wall, a dado to match the east parlor was found, also the original plaster walls against the brick filling. The south wall is wainscotted from floor to ceiling and contains on its surface three layers of interesting old wall papers. This room must have been in its present condition at the least one hundred years.

The lean-to kitchen and milk room were built separate from the main house and are butted up against it, evidence of this is in plain view.

The chimney when the Society took the house contained six fire-places and one a so-called false fire-place in the west chamber was removed. The two largest and oldest fire-places of the main chimney have been restored, their extreme width being nine feet six inches, height fifty-seven inches, depth three feet. One fire-place is square cornered with stone fire back the other has round corners and a herring bone pattern of fireback, both have pot sticks and their original Dutch ovens. The hearths are built of square tile, and both fireplaces contained at time of restoration brick ovens, one had been made smaller four different times the other three and some interesting utensils were found behind them. An oven or hole goes from one fire-place through to the other and was probably used to keep things warm. Modern dampers have been placed in the flues of the chimney to facilitate heating.

The lean-to kitchen contains a fire-place of still different construction, having a crane and two brick ovens. Two more fire-places remain upstairs one in the east chamber which is very old and has a raised tiled hearth and a tiny one in the chamber over the kitchen built many years ago by a resident of the house.

Restoring this chimney and fire-places by no means, meant rebuilding for so carefully was this accomplished by an expert restorer that it seems as if the chimney and fire-places had always been thus, the outside chimney was rebuilt from the ridgepole up. The rest was gone over on the inside brick by brick, and where ever desiccation had taken place, old bricks from the torn out fire-places were used and the entire chimney restored to its original condition.

The lower and upper front halls are very primitive, restoration work here, means simply removing of paint, leaving the wood natural and patching in the plaster on the side walls.

The lower flight of stairs while old are distinctly modern as the style of the stringers show, but the upper flight leading to the attic lend distinction to the house being the original, and having unique construction known to be at least two hundred years old. Plain wooden sheathing slanting back from floor to ceiling encases both flights.

The attic contains all its first timbering and the two sets of rafters tell the story of the present lean-to. The cellar is under the east parlor only, but in prime condition and on the door is portion of a very old "butterfly" hinge.

The story of the house handed down by tradition in the Upham family is that the original house contained but two rooms, and this seems to be borne out by investigation. The first two rooms being those on the east side, then two more were added on the west, then the lean-to kitchen and milk room on the north and east were built and finally the seventh room on the north-west corner, which contains to this day on one wall the original outside boarding which for some reason was never plastered. Over this lean-to adjoining the main house was a little open attic in each end of which were windows eighteen inches square which were uncovered at time of outside restoration. The original pitch of this lean-to came to within ten feet of the ground. As the Upham family grew, the roof was raised from the ridgepole out and up, as it is seen to-day, making a high, light and well ventilated open attic on the second floor, the whole length of the house. At this time the present back stairs, descended into the kitchen without protection at the sides or around the top. This is vouched for by the oldest living descendant born in the house now eighty-six years old, who says he with his brothers slept in a row of trundle beds in this open unfinished attic. As these children grew, a room was partitioned off in the north-east corner for the sisters, then another partition erected thus making two more rooms for the boys, at this time they were all lathed and plastered as now, and in the middle room a fire-place previously spoken of was built by an elder brother.

The last addition to the house was made about sixty years ago when an ell was put on to the lean-to kitchen giving more room, light, water and toilet accommodations.

The complete restoration of the inside of this house will be soon completed as it presents no unusual difficulties and the Society confidently expects to secure the funds needed.

The Melrose Historical Society has accomplished much since the idea started two years ago, which grew into the saving of this pioneer house. In addition to the ample grounds acquired with the house the Society has bonded and hopes to take over the adjoining property which contains a house large enough for the Library, Tea Room and home for the custodian. It is also desirable to restore the two old wells, one with a sweep, and the little old shoe shop with its ancient fittings, which with the possible addition of a fire-proof museum building would give Melrose one of the finest historical attractions of Greater Boston.

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